THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 17TH JUNE.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Morning Advertizer* telegraphs from Pera that General Tchernayeff has been appointed to command an Indian expeditionary force—fifty thousand men are now being collected at Orenburg. The force is to advance through Cabul. Is this meant as a reply to the despatch of Indian troops to Malta?

IN THE LAST GAZETTE OF INDIA the Governor-General in Council invites tenders for the lease of the Great Coco Island in the Bay of Bengal. The lease will be for a period not exceeding 20 years. In addition to the rent payable to Government, the lessee will be bound to defray the expense of maintaining peace in the island and on its coasts, and of the administration of civil and criminal justice. The Government fixes a maximum of Rs. 20,000 annually for such expenditure. But the administration of civil and criminal justice, custom, excise, and other departments will be retained in the hands of Government. The rent will be taken in kind. Tenders may be received from persons resident in India or the United Kingdom. Other conditions are annexed, for which we refer the reader to the resolution. Cannot a joint stock company be formed for this purpose?

THE JOURNAL DES DEBAT'S of Paris thus notices the Indian expeditionary Force to Malta. "We may be now well assured England possesses in India a powerful reserve that permits her to stand forth in the first rank of great military Powers even in a purely numerical point of view. But, furthermore, these native troops are perfectly trained and armed in European fashion, and are in a state to make a good figure by the side of their brothers in arms of the West." This move of Lord Beaconsfield has been, indeed, most clever, though there are unpatriotic Englishmen, who object to it.

IN PERFORMING the ceremony of opening the Sutlege Bridge Sir Andrew Clarke said:

Sixteen years have now elapsed since Brunton, the Engineer, pitched his camp and collected his forces on this then wild and desolate spot, having a task before him not less vast, if tradition and history speak aright, than that which the mighty "Iscander" undertook when with his hosts he crossed the Ravee and the Chenab, and came, it is said to this very site, to pass his legions to the further conquest of an immense city and nation on the banks of far distant Ganges. Some of you to whom I am now speaking have by your previous labours succeeded in spanning with great works the Ravee and the Chenab and, in now bridging the river Sutlej have done that which baffled the great Alexander himself, when, disheartened by heavy falls of rain, more probably by the fitful floods of this mighty stream, he had wish his army to fall back upon the Indus and compelled to abandon his golden schemes of ambition, sailed back on its broad bosom to the seaboard. Thus that river Sutlej which to Alexander proved the *ne plus ultra* of his Eastern conquests has been to you only one more opportunity of achieving another engineering victory, which will have to be followed up still by an enterprise which I dare to prophesy—owing its origin to the conceptive genius of that eminent Engineer Mr. Molesworth, who has already done so much for India and depending for its execution on the devoted labours of the men around me—will at no distant date be accomplished: the no less heroic task of spanning the mighty Indus itself.

IN THE same speech Sir Andrew Clarke remarked:

"Without doubt, one of the most remarkable features of the fabric itself has been the sinking and founding of the wells. To us engineers here in India, this system of founding the buttresses or piers over which the roadway is to pass is well known; and it is commonly said that we have learnt the practice in this country having adopted and adapted it from the native engineers of India. I am myself under the impression that it has been stated under competent authority that this system of dropping hollow cylinders into the heart of treacherous soil owes its birth to an inventive genius of a date long anterior to any application of it in this country, and hence that it cannot be said to be of pure Indian origin. Be this as it may, however, it must be admitted that whatever was its source, it is in India that we have learnt the value of the principle; that our application of it has met with marked success so far, and that one of the novel and remarkable features of this fabric, I repeat, is the great depth to which, in the bed of the Sutlej, the engineers have had to sink their piers. If I remember right all are down some 100 feet below the natural or what should be the natural, bed of this wandering river; and I cannot leave this part of my theme without mentioning with honour the name of one of ourselves a French Engineer who has been associated with us in this particular work and to whose skill and inventive genius it is due that we have been able to accomplish the sinking of the wells with less difficulty, and with much economy of time and money.

ONE OF the richest, if not the richest gold mine in the world, has lately begun to be worked in British Columbia. A few months ago a gigantic ledge of gold ore was struck at Cariboo, 20ft. to 30ft. in thickness, and many miles in length. One company, now in full operation, have a tunnel in ore that averages £100 to the ton, an average that exceeds any yet found on the far-famed Comstock lode.

AN AMERICAN writes to the *Indian Agriculturist* to say that throughout Northern Africa and the drier portions of Western and Central Asia, *date* is the staff of life to millions. The date tree flourishes where agriculture is impossible, and is the source of large profit as well as common sustenance wherever it is cultivated. It is now proposed by the Commissioner of Agriculture at Washington to make date a staple American produce also. The centre of this new enterprise is to be the now useless desert regions of Southern California and Aryiyona.

TUESDAY, 18TH JUNE.

THE CORPORATION of London has refused a retiring pension to Mr. Russell Garney, the late Recorder. In noticing this fact the London *Examiner* remarks: "The late Recorder never truckled to the tallow chandlers, soap boilers, and dry saltera, by whom the City is governed; he held aloof from City gluttony; he sternly set his face against City corruption and jobbery. Hence the determination of the Common Council to put a final insult on him if possible" The Calcutta Corporation ought to feel thankful that such graceful epithets are not applied to it.

IT IS stated that the street lamps in Providence, R. I., which extend over a distance of nine miles, are now lighted and extinguished by electricity, in less than fifteen seconds, by one man.

MR. MORRIS, Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, has offered the colonization of the Charwar Jungle in the Hoshangabad district, on the following terms:

"(1.) No application will be entertained for less than 1,000 acres.

(2.) Lands will be given to such applicants only as may be able to satisfy the authorities that they possess sufficient capital and energy to colonize them with agriculturists drawn from parts of the country other than Central Provinces, and to bring them under cultivation.

(3.) Full proprietory rights over the lands granted will not be obtained, until 40 per cent of the total quantity taken up, shall have been brought under cultivation.

(4.) The revenue at the first settlement which is to last for twenty years, will be;—free for the first three years, 2 annas per acre for the whole quantity of land taken up for the next seven years; and 4 annas per acre for the next ten years.

(5.) The grantees will have no right over the trees standing on the land, but they will be allowed to take wood for the personal use of themselves and their cultivators.

Babu Nobinchunder Roy, a Brahma reformer well known in Northern India, Pay Master of the Rajputana and Sindia Railway, has, says the *Indian Tribune*, taken 1,000 acres in the Charwa jungle on the above terms. His grant lies at a distance of about three miles from the Harsud station on the Great Indian Peninsular Railway; and a perennial stream flows by the grant. The inmates of the Orphan Asylum, which Babu Nobinchunder recently established at Agra, have been settled in a village on the grant; and about eighty cultivators have been already despatched to Charwa in charge of his manager. Why should not some of our educated natives, who are struggling for existence, take to this new field of enterprise?

WE HAVE RECEIVED some specimens of Arabic types invented by Messrs. Castin and Co, London. These types are specially designed to reduce the expense of printing in the Arabic character. By a very simple contrivance the number of types is considerably reduced, and every letter is made to come within the body. This enables the lines of type to fit closely together, so that a large quantity of matter can, when needful, be got into a small space, thus saving a great waste of paper, &c. Furthermore, these types can be set with ordinary Roman types of the same body, as in dictionary work, without any "justification"

"A LONDON PHYSICIAN" calls attention in a letter to the *Morning* Post to the facts to which we alluded the other day, that "Indian troops were employed by England against a European enemy in the first year of this century, in the year 1801 when we fought Napoleon on the battle-ground of Egypt: and doubting the sufficiency of the 12,000 European troops which we landed in Aboukir Bay to conquer nearly twice the number of French troops already in possession of Egypt, we landed a mixed force of European and Native Indian troops to the number of nearly 8,000, of which upwards of 4,000 were Indians at Cossir Bay, on the shores of the Red sea. This mixed body of troops reached the Nile in a high state of efficiency, after a most fatiguing and harassing march across the desert: but they arrived too late to share the glories of this short and brilliant campaign."

ON THE MOTION of Mr. Fawcett, all the Indian Acts lately passed imposing new taxation, have been reprinted by order of the House of Commons.

THE SHAH OF PERSIA is again touring. In Tiflis the Russians received the Shah with open arms, spending £4,000 sterling on his reception. His Majesty, in turn, conferred the order of the Lion and the Sun on the Grand Dukes Michael and George, and gave Prince Mirski a portrait set with diamonds. At Moscow the Shah was lodged in the Kremlin; the Czar sending him the gold Court carriage to drive about in. The reception at St. Petersburg is said to have been rather lukewarm. It is commonly said that Persia has become the jackal of Russia.

THE PIONEER'S CORRESPONDENT with the Indian Contingent writes from Port Said: "As I predicted, the drinking-water arrangements necessitated some of the transports putting in at Aden. The *Bengal*, *Bangalore*, and *Nankin* were all short of water by from 20 to 40 tons each. The *St. Osyth* had to stop at Aden to repair her boilers; and one of her "tows," the *clydesdale*, reported six cases of cholera, four fatal, since leaving Bombay; she was therefore in quarantine. The rash experiment of embarking a battery infected with cholera will, it is to be hoped, never be repeated.'

WEDNESDAY, 19TH JUNE.

THE GLOBE has the following on recent Parliamentary scenes:

A predecessor of the honourable member who lately took his seat for Oxfordshire was one who usually found it extremely difficult to obtain a hearing, and dogged persistence on his part once called forth what has been recorded as the most turbulent "scene" of moderate parliamentary history, and one which quite throws into the shade the little hubbub of last Monday night, or even that still more memorable occasion "when the cock crowed behind the Speaker's chair in 1872," The honourable member attempted to address the House after the most influential speakers had exhausted the debate—always, of course, a very venturesome thing to attempt—and when everybody felt that the time had come for a division. No sooner had the luckless orator opened his mouth than, as somebody said, the house resolved itself into a zoological menagerie. Members yelped, and barked and brayed, and crowed, and sneezed, and laughed and sang songs until a stranger might have supposed that almost from Mr. Speaker downwards the British senators had gone stark mad. He had to give in at length; and another hon. member—one who had the best pair of lungs in the House it was said—tried for a quarter of an hour or so to get in a word, and then gave way to a third. But it was no good. The House had resolved on a division, and barked and roared them all down; and then came to a division, and settled down to business. Strictly speaking, perhaps, this cannot be considered exactly parliamentry procedure, and as we have seen on the authority of Mr. Speaker, it would be distinctly condemned by the ancient usage of the august assembly; but it is absolutely necessary to have some means of shutting off an eternal flow of twaddle; and bleating, and bow wowing or something of the kind if not quite as dignified as could be wished, is usually effectual though not always.

So it is sometimes necessary to imitate the beast for purposes of civilized life!

THE VEGETARIAN Society of Great Britain lately held its May conference at Manchester, and the chairman, Professor Newman, said that vegetarianism enabled him to live on sixpence a day, and that his digestion had never been good until he became a vegetarian eleven years ago. Think of that, ye whose livers make life a burden to ye! Mr. Newman further urges that vegetarian diet is a sure preventive of skin disease.

FATHER LAFONT in a letter to the *Statesman* gives the following account of the Microphone:

"Any one may construct it. Upon a piece of board, or, better still, a shallow cigar box, fix upright a thin piece of deal, or other elastic wood, about 3 inches broad and 6 inches high. In the middle of this upright fix two little pieces of the carbon rods that are used for electric lamps, at a distance of about 2 inches, so as to project at right angles to the surface of the board. Now drill two small hollows in the sides of the carbons facing each other, and between these place a slender piece of black-lead pencil, pointed at both ends, so that one of the points resting fairly in the hollow of the lower carbon, the other point loosely fits into the hollow of the upper carbon. Fix two pieces of copper wire to the carbon, and the Microphone is ready for use. The circuit is made as follow: one of the wires of the Microphone is attached to the positive pole of a battery two or three Leclanche's cells the other to one

of the binding screws of a Telephone, and finally the 2nd binding screw of the Telephone is put in communication with the negative pole of the battery. I made a rough model of the Microphone for myself on Saturday, and I was perfectly astounded at the results I obtained with it. The ticking of my watch was heard in the telephone with extraordinary clearness a mere touch of the finger upon the board of the Microphone was distinctly *heard*, but the most astonishing fact is the transmission of clear ringing words when a person, standing two or three feet from the instrument, spoke towards it in a low voice, indeed almost in a whisper.

Surely this little trembling rod of carbon is destined to unravel to us some more mysteries about electricity and the human voice. As it is, it forms the most delicate telegraphic sender one could have dreamt of, and I confess it simply puzzles me.

If the Microphone could be made to restore the ear to those, who have lost power over it, it will render a singal service to humanity.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to a contemporary: "The corpse of a woman has just been brought to Perozepore who, it is said, was starved to death in Matbareeh, where the people are in great want. It is also said that she committed suicide by hanging herself at Nezirpore." We fear that deaths from starvation are taking place here and there even in Bengal.

DR. COWELL, late Principal of the Sanscrit College and now Boden Professor of Sanscrit in the Oxford University, has founded a scholarship in the Calcutta College by investing Rs. 1,500, the interest of which will be laid out for that purpose.

THE REDUCTION of overland postage may be expected from the Postal Conference at Paris. The rates of postage proposed by the Committee would give for the service between India and Great Britain *via* Southampton a maximum of 50 centimes (about 5d) per ½ ounce for letters, 15 centimes (about 1½ pence) for each post card and 10 centimes (about 1d per 50 grammes (nearly 2oz) for packets of printed papers &c. These rates would be subject to increase as heretofore for articles sent by the special train service *via* Brindisi. But by a previous understanding between the British and Indian Post Offices the received letter rate will probably be only 4d per 1½ oz *via* Southampton with a corresponding Brindisi rate of 6d.

GERMANY HAS submitted to the Postal Congress a proposal for a general system of international parcel post. At present the parcel post is dependent on special arrangements with the several countries to which it extends.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION has been supplied with an excellent series and specimens of Indian woods and other forest produce. The number of wood specimens exhibited is 650, which includes 370 different species. One of the chief objects of this exhibition has been to shew together specimens of the valuable woods of India collected from as many different regions as possible, so as to form a series illustrating the different growth and different qualities in different climates. In addition to these 650 specimens, there are 32 large planks, 16 climbers, 28 bamboos and 16 canes and other palms; while of minor produce the list contains 100 specimens of gums, resins, lac, oils, varnishes and caoutchouc; 88 specimens of fibres, bark, flowers and leaves used in rope and paper making, for dye and other purposes; 93 specimens of fruits and seeds, and a number of miscellaneous articles.

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL of Forests points out that the total number of species of trees in India amounts to about 2000, of which barely 100, are extensively used or known to Trade. Many of these woods, which are not now recognized as articles of trade and are little known, are very handsome and possess other valuable properties, and the object is to bring them to public notice.

THE COMMISSIONER of the Peshwar Division has reported to the Government of the Punjab that all relief operations in the Hazara district closed on the 29th May.

THURSDAY, 20TH JUNE.

THE IMPERIAL Legislative Council assembles at Simla this day. Mr. Stokes presents to the Select Committee the second report on promissory notes bills of exchange and cheques bill, and moves the addition of Mr. Colvin to the Select Committee on North Western Provinces Land Revenue Act 1873. Mr. Thornton moves for the introduction of a bill to prevent indiscriminate destruction of wild elephants in British Burma, and Mr. Cockerell for leave to introduce a bill for relief of indebted agriculturists in certain parts of Bombay. Mr. Stokes also moves for leave to introduce a bill to amend the Code of Civil Procedure.

MR M. A. PORTER M. A., Madras education service, has been appointed to act as Tutor to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore. Mr. Porter is a Cambridge man of the highest academical distinction as he was a Fellow of St. Peter's College and third Wrangler.

THE QUESTION having arisen as to whether the quotations of consols in Reuter's Telegrams can be transmitted over the Indian Telegraph lines at Press rates—the rules regarding Press telegrams expressly forbidding the transmission of commercial telegrams at Press rates—the Government of India has decided that the quotations of Consols, being obviously sent as political news, may go at Press rates.

A CORRESPONDENT informs us that a movement was set on foot some time ago in the Eastern Districts of Bengal for raising the pay of the collectorate establishment, especially that of the Accountant. The Collectors of Mymensing and Dacca strongly recommended the increase of pay, and the Commissioner of the Dacca Division supported the recommendation and forwarded it to Government. The Government as far back as September 1876 promised to dispose of the question in two or three months after the date of reply. Nearly a year has passed since the correspondence and no orders have been issued as yet. Our correspondent justly remarks that hope deferred maketh the heart sick.

WE ARE INFORMED that the discussion between the Hyderabad Government and the Government of India regarding the terms upon which the Berarswere assigned upon Treaty, is at last likely to be closed. The questions at issue have, it is known, been more than once referred for decision to the Secretary of State, and we believe that Sir Salar Jung and his colleague have now frankly and unreservedly accepted the final award. The conclusion is regarded as honorable to the high character for statesmanship enjoyed by the minister and his colleague the Nawab Amir Kabir. But we should like to know the details of this "satisfactory conclusion."

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA have determined to establish an express steam service between Dhubri and Debroghur in Assam, and has therefore invited tenders for the service on certain conditions. The latest date for the receipt of tenders is 31st October next. For the present the parcel mails of the Post Office only not exceeding 3-4ths of a ton shall be carried free and when the service is fully established and developed both the letter mail and parcel mail shall be carried free of charge including servants and attendants, who proceed in charge of mails. The Government of India and the Chief Commissioner of Assam shall have power to detain a steamer at any place, and the Director General of the Post Office shall have the same power in case of postal necessities, for a period not exceeding 24 hours. The service at first shall be twice a week.

OUR ASSAM CORRESPONDENT writes:

Here is a salam case *par excellence*. A Head Constable of the Cachar Police while passing by a European tea planter forgot to salam him or as stated by the accused the planter was overlooked by him. The planter reported the fact of the omission to the Police Superintendent of the District, who ordered the Head Constable to go to the planter to salam him or else he must consider himself as relieved of his duties in the Police service!

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL of Rome has passed the following Resolution: "Romans who are natives of Rome are to have the preference, where their qualifications are satisfactory, in the bestowal of posts under the Municipality." The Roman correspondent of the *Indo-European Correspondence*, who furnishes the above, says, there is no help for it; the Municipality's resolution only shows that it must recognise the actual state of things in Rome, where there are now two peoples, or rather two distinct races; and so long as the native Romans are treated as a conquered race, there is no prospect of their reconciliation with their oppressors.

FRIDAY, 1ST JUNE.

THE CRY *Long live the Republic* is now declared to be quite legal in Italy. The Republicans at Leghorn (Livorno) have been acquitted, though they had shouted in the streets: *Down with the King! Long live the Republic!*

THE BAGOT WILL CASE is over. The *Times*, in reviewing it, hopes "that it will escape the attention of those foreign critics who study the social morality and the do nestic bliss ot England"!

A GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the Vienna Oriental Museum took place lately at which the report of the Director, Arthur von Scala, on his voyage to India, was read and received with great approval. An exhibition of Indian products of art and industry, as well as of the presents received by Mr. Scala in India for the museum, was opened at the same time. The Director was eloquent in praising the hospitality and general good feeling, which he met with in India, where every one, from Lord Lytton to the lowest clerk of the Custom House, did all in their power to be of service to him.

MEMORIAL STATUES are coming into fashion in Nepal. It is stated that the Nepal Government has sent orders for two life-size equestrian statues in bronze, of the late Maharajah Sir Jung Bahadoor. These are to be placed on sculptured granite pedestals, and are to cost about £5,000 each.

THE TWO ESTIMATES of the Army and Navy regarding the cost of the expeditionary force despatched to Malta, have been issued. The estimate issued by the War Office, for pay, clothing and minor contingent expenses, amounts to £350,000. The estimate issued by the Admiralty relates to the cost of conveyance of the troops, and amounts to £398,000.

THE INDIAN TOURS of Professor Monier Williams seem to have been highly successful. He has already been promised half the £10,000 he wants for the Indian Institute at Oxford, and is hopeful about the rest.

MORE ROAD CESS defalcations. According to the Furreedpore correspondent of the *East* the Road Cess Accountant of that district has embezzled a large sum of money and is at large.

A CORRESPONDENT from Nuddea writes as follows:

In another four days Mr. Stevens makes over charge of the District to Mr. W. V. G. Taylor of Patna. Good, courteous, sweet-mouthed, and supporter of the *Laissez-Faire* principle. Mr. Stevens leaves many behind him to regret his departure. The Police Officers whom he petted and the *Budmashes* whom he was afraid to touch will feel his departure. We hope, however, administrative vigor will be restored, Even-handed justice will regain its place and order replace the confusion in the Road cess and other offices under Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Stevens' popularity is based on his goodness and "cowish" innocence. But the lover of discipline and the hater of scandal must thank the Government, which have determined to infuse new blood into the District administration.

Mr. Stevens with all his outward toleration was seldom open to conviction and not unfrequently obstinate in matters of the pettiest description; of limited views he was more sensitive about his own dignity than the good name of others. As a Magistrate and a disciplinarian he has entirely failed.

His merit lay in compiling readable reports which for a time gained him a good name. The Government has declared that the district administration has been weakened by his weakness and we hope with Sir Ashley Eden that the bracing air of Europe will improve Mr. Stevens.

By the bye the Tentool Baria murder case we hear has been reinvestigated and the prisoners have been sent up for trial. The case was shelved as not proven. The District Officers ought to answer who is to blame?

SATURDAY, 22ND JUNE.

A TELEGRAM from General Ross dated Malta 19th June states that the health of troops is good and that there is absolutely no foundation for rumours of sickness and mortality said to have been current in Bombay. The only casualties among the troops since landing have been one artillery man, *two* Sepoys, and one follower.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORT of monsoon in the Madras Presidency dated 19th June states that monsoon heavy on coast fairly commenced extreme south of Presidency, to east and north not yet properly begun but some rain has fallen everywhere. Monsoon broke out at Ootacamund very lightly, on the 14th, rain ceased, 17th fall for three days, 40 cent. Prospects are considered to have improved generally, though the season seems late and not quite normal. Prices of rice and dry grains still rising in most parts of Presidency. There was an increase last week in numbers on relief works of 10,000 and decrease of the numbers on gratuitous relief of 4000, numbers now relieved are on works 135,000, gratuitous 71,000, total 206,000.

A CORRESPONDENT from Raipore in the Beerbhoom district states that the Government has called for a report on the sanitary condition of the villages of Raipore, Soopore, Soorool and others in the Beerbhoom district being in close proximity to the Railway, as these once healthy places have become hot-beds of disease. The writer suggests that the Magistrate's attention should be drawn to the condition of the tanks in those villages, which, at least most of them, have not been cleansed and repaired since they were first excavated.

ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT complains of the vexatious delay which occurs in the refund of deposit money in the Civil Courts belonging to suitors. This delay is chiefly owing to the negligence in the collectorate in sending up its advice list. He requests attention of the authorities to the subject in view to their adopting measures to compel the collectorate to issue the advice list within a reasonable time. Our correspondent draws the special attention of the Deputy Collector of Diamond Harbour to the necessity of expediting his advice list, as his sub-division is the largest and contains many depositors.

ONE OF those miserable employes, an education clerk of a Magistrate's Office, sends us his lamentation that of all the clerks those who do education work are the most wretchedly paid. Hard work, small pay; no encouragemen given to, no notice taken of, meritorious exertions The salaries of all other clerks are graded, but the education clerks are doomed to toil on on the same fixed pay all their lives through. To

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remedy this evil, the writer suggests, there should be a biennial or triennial increment to their pay, and when appointing Deputy Inspectors of Schools the claims of these clerks should be taken into consideration if found competent.

A CORRESPONDENT from Baseerhat (24-Pergunnas) writes that through the skilful exertions of Inspector Babu Ramkomul Mookerjee, who was ably supported by his subordinates, a body of dacoits, who robbed a Mahomedan family at Sungrampore, have been apprehended with the booty. The same writer informs us that the Sub-Divisional Officer has succeeded in opening a higher class English School on the most approved model, one peculiar feature of which is that it provides for technical education, there being a special class for the teaching of the arts and professional callings.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS the Duke of Cambridge has sent the following telegram to His Excellency the Viceroy from Malta: "Having completed inspection of the Indian forces here assembled I beg to congratulate you and the Indian Armies on the admirable appearance and efficiency of all the troops, their health excellent, their conduct admirable, their cheerfulness marked."

WE UNDERSTAND that the Government of India has acknowledged as the successor of Haiderahbin Ahmed, the Sultan of the Fudhli tribe, near Aden, who was assassinated last year—the Sultan's nephew Ahmedbin Hossain. The Government has renewed with the present chief the engagements concluded with his predecessors and has continued to him the annual stipend of $ 2,160 enjoyed by the late Sultan.

IT IS said that fever prevails in Swat to a great extent this year.

IT IS reported from the frontier that Bakhu Khan, a resident at Peshwar, has been arrested at Cabul as a foreign spy, and shot by the Amir's order; also that the Amir intends to inflict a heavy punishment on the tribes, who lately refused to pay the State Revenue and the Poll-tax.

WE HAVE received the fifteenth annual report of the Uttarparah Hitakari Sabha. The Sabha collected last year arrear subscriptions 160-8, current subscriptions 516, donations from bridal parties, a new source of income, which other village societies would do well to utilize, Rs. 106, Government aid Rs. 240, annuity from the late Pearymohun Banerjea's estate Rs. 50, and some small sums from other sources, making a total of Rs. 1269-5-3, which it disbursed as follows:

	Rs.	As.	P.
I. CHARITIES.			
Education of poor boys	233	12	0
Distribution of medicines	17	0	0
Pecuniary aid to poor widows and orphans	254	4	0
	505	0	0
II. FEMALE EDUCATION.			
Scholarship to girls	304	7	6
Prize to the Zenana candidates	175	8	6
Reward to the Pundits of the best school	16	0	0
Travelling expenses to Superintend the examinations	21	0	0
	517	0	0
III. MEETINGS.			
Charges on account of the 14th Annual Meeting ..	19	14	0
,, for meetings of the Literary Branch... ...	6	14	3
	26	12	3
IV. MISCELLANEOUS.			
Establishment charges	36	0	0
Contingent expenses	8	0	9
	44	0	9
V. PRINTING.			
Printing of Report, Scholarship questions and letters	70	0	0
Total	...1162	13	0
Balance in hand	... 106	8	3
Total	...1269	5	3

This Sabha affords a signal example of thoughtful and discriminating husbandment of small resources for public good.

IT IS stated that a sepoy attacked the other day Mr. Tyrrell, Judge of Barielly, whilst the latter was playing badminton. Happily the injury was not severe. It is said that the man came to strike the General Saheb, but not recognizing him laid his hands upon Mr. Tyrrell. Whether the man be half-witted or not, an example ought to be made of him.

THREE Vernacular papers of Bombay have shut up themselves in consequence of the Vernacular Press Act.

WE HAVE received the following letter from a correspondent from Bhanga, Furreedpore, dated the 19th instant:

"A severe storm lately passed over the South-Eastern portion of the Faridpur District, including Bhanga, and has inflicted great injury upon the people. The late rains have cheered the prospects of the crops. The price of rice has fallen, the lowest rate being Rs. 2-14 ans per maund.

The absence of good roads in the southern portion of the Faridpore District is a matter of general complaint. In this (Faridpore) District, the Road Cess Act came into operation in October 1871. And up to this time not a single effort has been made for roads in the aforesaid Southern part. The reason I believe is the constant changes among the District officers (on whom the well being and prosperity of the people depend) who unless well acquainted with the wants and wishes of the people by long residence among them, cannot be expected to feel for their wants.

In this month i. e. June it is a matter of very great hardship to make a journey to Faridpur, from this part of the District, on account of some places being covered with water, and other places with mud, &c. This difficulty may be obviated by the opening of a road from Faridpur to Madaripur, via Bhanga.

The abolition of the Munsiff's Court of Muksudpur, and its amalgamation with the Munsiff's Court of Bhanga, has caused great inconvenience to the people formerly within the jurisdiction of the said Munsiff's Court of Muksudpur, as many people have to come from great way off to carry on their business. The cause of the abolition of the said Munsiff's Court is not known. But this much can be said that there has not been a saving to Government.

But the inconvenience complained of may be obviated by the removal of the 2nd Munsiff's Court of Bhanga to some central spots formerly within the jurisdiction of the aforesaid Munsiff's Court of Muksudpur. By this change the Government will not incur any loss. Enquiry ought to be made on the matter at an early date."

THE INDIAN CHARIVARI is looking up. Its cartoons are better conceived and the letter press is far more readable now than before. The last number is decidedly good. The artist, who has painted Mr. H. T. Prinsep, has not, however, done him justice.

A CONSIDERABLE saving, we are informed, has lately been effected in the Educational Department at Benares by the substitution of a zilla school for the Benares Collegiate School formerly attached to the Benares College. This saving is to be devoted to the pay of a Professor of Physical Science in the Benares College. We are not prepared to say whether the abolition of the Collegiate School is a wise move.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Annual Statement of the Trade and Navigation of British India with foreign countries and of the coasting trade of the several Presidencies and Provinces for 1876-77, Vol. II. 2. Annual Report on the Police Administration of the Town of Calcutta and its suburbs for 1877. 3. Liberal Education in India—a paper read before the Bethune Society, by Nogendranath Ghose Esq. Barrister-at-law. 4. Fifteenth Annual Report of the Utterparah Hitakari Sabha. 5. Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, No. V. May, 1878. 6. Mookerjee's Magazine, August to December 1878. 7. The Aborigenes' Friend,—a journal of the Transactions of the Aborigenes' Protection Society, May, 1878. 8. Paricharika—a monthly Bengali Journal Nos. 1 and 2. Vol. I.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, 16*th June*.—The negotiations between Russia and Turkey for the surrender of the quadrilateral fortresses has been abandoned. The British Iron-clad Squadron has gone to Prince's Island for reasons of health.

17*th*.—The Conservative journals vehemently condemn the Anglo-Russian agreement, as showing important concessions from the Marquis of Salisbery's circular. The *Daily News* considers it to be a satisfying compromise, whilst the *Times* completely approves the agreement, and especially the plan for the future of Turkey.

17*th*.—In the Lords this evening, the Duke of Richmond said that the Anglo-Russian agreement had been published surreptitiously, as an *expose* of the policy of Government, and was incomplete.

18*th*.—Sir Stafford Northcote, repeating the statement in the Commons made by the Duke of Richmond in the Lords appealed to the House to forego further details. A motion of Mr. Hanbury, in reference to Mr. Gladstone's article in the *Nineteenth Century* against the employment of native troops in Europe, has been withdrawn. The latest news from the Cape states that the Kaffir outbreak is collapsing.

19*th*.—The Lancashire strike has ended, the operatives having accepted the ten per cent. reduction. Mr. Gladstone has presented the Poona petition against the Vernacular Press Act to Parliament. Notwithstanding inaccuracies in drafting, the petition has been accepted.

London, 22*nd June*—The *Times* announces that at an interview, yesterday, England, Austria, and Russia agreed to the following points, subject to ratification, at the Congress on Saturday, that Bulgaria shall terminate at the Balkans, the Turks to fortify the desses and garrison the fortified places, Roumelia to include Sophia, and Bulgaria to include Varna, the northern irontier of Montenegro, and the boundaries of Servia to be restricted, and received compensation in the South. The *Morning Post* states that the Czar is going to Berlin.

Berlin, 16*th June*.—The admittance of Greece to some of the sittings of the Congress is probable. Should the Congress grant autonomy to Epirus, Thessaly, Bosnia and Herzegovina the Turkish plenipotentiaries are instructed by their Government to withdraw, and declare that Turkey will simply execute the treaty of San Stefano.

18*th*—The Congress yesterday discussed as to whether Greece should be admitted No decision was arrived at. The Austro-Russian *entente* is assured.

18*th*.—An active interchange of views upon difficult points is proceeding between the Plenipotentiaries, in order to facilitate their discussion at the Congress. The Plenipotentiaries maintain the strictest secrecy. The Congress sat for two hours on Monday. The next sitting takes place on Wednesday.

19*th*.—The Emperor William's physicians have issued a statement that his arms are helpless, and that his recovery will be painful and protracted.

20*th*.—Congress sat yesterday for two hours. The English proposal for the admission of Greece was the subject of discussion. Russia alone opposed, and no decision was arrived at. The next sitting takes place on Friday. St. Petersburgh papers disapprove of the Anglo-Russian agreement.

20*th*.—It has been decided that Greece shall be admitted to the Congress consultatively.

Constantinople, 17*th June*—The Russian head-quarters have left San Stefano; whither they will be transferred is uncertain. The Turkish irregular troops attacked the Montenegrins on the 15th. An indecisive fighting has followed.

18*th*.—The Russians head-quarters remain at San Stefano. The report of their removal was owing to the movements of Russian troops in consequence of a false impression that the Turks were threatening to attack the Russians.

21st.—The Russian plenipotentiaries begin pointing out that that concessions made by Count Shouvaloff were the maximum and laying great stress upon the sacrifices made and the popular feeling in Russia. Austria and England demand the cessation of the Russian occupation of Bulgaria immediately and the conclusion of a treaty of peace with the Turkish garrision in the Balkans.

20*th*.—The Congress progresses but slowly and it is expected to be of long duration. Only the points previously arranged at interviews will be discussed. The English, Russian and Austrian plenipotentiaries held a conference to-day, but could not arrive at an entente regarding Bulgaria.

20*th*.—More troops are to be despatched to the Cape. Mr. Gladstone has presented the Calcutta petition against the Vernacular Press bill to Parliament.

Washington, *June* 20*th*.—The Greenback bill has finally failed to pass, but the fishery award to Great Britain has been voted. Both Houses of Congress have adjourned sine die.

Malta, *June* 21st—The Duke of Cambridge, in his farewel orders to the Indian contingent, expresses his unqualified approval of the appearance of men, and states that he will inform Her Majesty of the complete satisfaction which the inspection has given him. The Duke also expresses his gratification at being personally acquainted with the force and compliments the Generals in command.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendralal Sircar, to-morrow at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Telephone and Microphone.

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy on *Saturday* the 29*th Inst.* next, at 4 P. M.

Subject: Nitrogen and Atmospheric Air.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, JUNE 24, 1878.

THE DEBATE ON THE INDIAN CONTINGENT.

THERE were two debates on the Indian Contingent in the two Houses of Parliament. In an intellectual point of view the debate in the House of Lords was decidedly superior. Lord Selborne opened the ball, and his statement was able, exhaustive, and complete from his point of view. His chief points were, as the *Times* summarizes, that the Crown has no such right over the Indian forces as its advisers have practically claimed for it. It is contrary alike to the letter of the law and to the Constitutional principle which underlies the law, and by which the law must be interpreted. The English dislike of a standing army, not raised and maintained under the immediate control of Parliament, has, Lord Selborne urges, found expression in many parts of the Statue Book. It gave form to one of the most important clauses in the Bill of Rights, and it has been repeated from year to year as often as the Mutiny Act has been passed. The attempt to control the power of the Crown in the matter of standing forces by imposing a limit on their number fails completely if the Crown is to have the disposal of an extraneous army, supported by an extraneous treasury, and capable of being moved, without consent of Parliament, to any part of Her Majesty's dominions. It has never, in point of fact, been contemplated that the Indian Army could be so employed. A clause in the Act of 1858 was altered into its existing form for the express purpose of forbidding it. In 1863 the notion of employing Indian regiments for service in New Zealand was started and was given up. In 1867 some Indian troops took part in the Abyssinian war, but this was not done without the previous consent of Parliament having been asked and obtained. The present Government has thus gone contrary to all precedents and to all principles. Lord Cairns, the Lord Chancellor, was equally strong on the other side. He takes upon himself, we quote the *Times*' summary again, to show not only that Lord Selborne is in the wrong in his statement of Constitutional law, but that the Marquis of Hartington is also mistaken in the views to which he is presumed to have been giving utterance, and that Sir George Campbell had no warrant for asserting that the Indian Mutiny Act was not applicable to Indian troops

at Malta. The Lord Chancellor affirmed two distinct propositions. Firstly, the Ministry were acting on an emergency quite strong enough to call for extraordinary measures to meet it, and they did nothing that could not be defended in itself even if no emergency were supposed to exist. Secondly, the Indian forces since 1868 belong, Lord Cairns declares, to the Crown. It is the undoubted prerogative of the Crown to make such use of its troops as it may think expedient. The burden of proof rests upon those who seek to limit the prerogative. The general rule is against them, and their case, accordingly, needs to be very specially made out. The country, Lord Cairns seems to think, is in favour of what the Government has done, and it is not, therefore, so incumbent on him as it might otherwise have been to make a defence which a Constitutional lawyer could admit as sound and adequate. The Duke of Rutland, on the other side, protested against the action of the Government as at once a slight inflicted upon Parliament and an encroachment of the Executive on functions which do not properly belong to it. Lord Granville roundly condemned the Government for acting without the consent of Parliament, which he held was wholly unconstitutional. Lord Beaconsfield did not like to tackle the real question, but adroitly avoided it. His Lordship said :

"I shall not, on the present occasion, enter upon the legal and technical discussion which has been raised this evening. If a debate had been commenced in which the general policy of the Government was challenged, we should have been glad to enter upon the discussion with perfect fulness. (Hear.) In that case we should have been quite prepared to vindicate the course we had adopted. We found, however, that the question to be raised was of a very different character, and that noble lords opposite were to studiously avoid asking any opinion from your lordships' House upon the proceedings of Her Majesty's Government. The House is not in a position in which we might be reproached for our conduct, nor are we able to defend that conduct without entering into details which I say advisedly, it would not be for the public advantage should at this moment be laid before your lordships' House. (Hear, hear.) I must decline, in these circumstances, to explain the conduct of Her Majesty's Government with respect to the movement of the native forces of Her Majesty from India. I shall be ready, my lords, at the right time and so also shall my colleagues be ready, and that without hesitation, to enter upon any discussion your lordship's House may require on this matter, and I have sufficient confidence in the patriotism of the House to feel no doubt that the result of any such discussion will not be to the disadvantage of Her Majesty's Government"

Referring to the speeches of Lord Selborne and the Lord Chancellor his Lordship humorously remarked :

"I myself listened to those speeches with instruction and certainly with pleasure. At the same time I have right to form an opinion as to those speeches as well as the noble earl, and I must say that the shield was on one side silver and on the other golden ; but that ours was the more precious metal. (Laughter.) It appeared to me that the noble and learned lord who introduced the question most ingeniously treated a variety of subjects which have for a long time now been under public discussion. I must, with all humility, observe that there was nothing very novel in the noble and learned lord's materials, nor was there anything eminently felicitous in his treatment of them. (Laughter.) My noble and learned friend on the woolsack met the charge of the noble and learned lord in a bold and complete manner, and demonstrated that the batteries which the noble and learned lord had attempted to raise against the Government were powerless, and that for the attack he made there was really no foundation whatever. It appeared to me that the noble and learned lord, in a most laboured manner, discovered—if I may use so unclassical a word in this assembly—only a mare's nest. (A laugh.) What were the only arguments used in a speech of two hours and which was answered in a speech of equal length—for I particularly watched the time of each ? (Laughter.) Two arguments were urged by the noble and learned lord, which I must say have been urged before, but urged to-night, of course, with the greatest ability of which they were susceptible. The first was this : You have no right whatever to move Her Majesty's native forces from India to Malta ; the second was, You have not only no right to do that, but you have no right to call upon India to bear the expense of such movement. These were the two great points : one point for each hour. (A laugh.) Now, my lords let us see how the matter stands. I entirely dispute the first proposition. The noble earl who has just sat down says, "I object to your consent and on this broad ground, that you had no right to move those troops from India without the consent of Parliament." In fact, the noble earl recommended to our consideration to-night that very unfortunate amendment of Mr. Gladstone's which has been referred to and which at the time it was submitted, he opposed with so much energy and dignity in this House. (Hear hear.) Well, the noble and learned lord bases his first point upon the Mutiny Act. My lords, I entirely dispute that position. We say that there is no reference whatever to native troops in the Mutiny Act. The Mutiny Act does not refer to nativeIndian troops, and, therefore, the charge against the Government is one which cannot be maintained. On the other hand, we say we have a perfect right to advise Her Majesty to exercise her undoubted prerogative and that advice she may command her undoubted prerogative and that under that advice she may command her native Indian army to occupy Malta or any other place which her responsible Ministers advise her that, owing to public necessity and for the public advantage, they should go. Well my lords, what is the next point of the noble lord's argument ? He says that we have no right to fasten this expenditure upon the revenues of India. Well, we are not going to fasten the expense upon the revenues of India. The noble and learned lord admits that, virtually speaking, we do not intend it, but that, practically speaking there is some expenditure incurred which in the first instance the Indian Treasury must bear until we have prepared and had passed a Supplementary Estimate in the other House of Parliament. But in what way, I should like to know, could we complete our engagements except in the manner followed by the Government ? The noble lord, he has been a Minister of the Crown, must know very well that accounts between England and India are of a very considerable character. They have this peculiarity, I believe—namely, that the debt of the Indian Treasury to the Treasury of England is generally very large, and thus far it even for two or three months the Supplimentary Estimates were not carried in Parliament still, the Indian Treasury would be perfectly safe, because it would probably owe that of England a much larger sum (Hear hear.) The noble and learned lord dwelt very much upon one precedent—the Abyssinian Expedition—and although he treated that precedent with dexterity, I do not think he did so with that generosity which distinguishes his character. The noble and learned lord showed by various documents that there were considerable advances made at that time by the Indian Treasury and that they were made illegally, but the noble and learned lord chose to forget that no one in either House of Parliament so far as my knowledge or recollection guides me, disputed the authority of the Crown to employ the native India troops of Her Majesty on that expedition. The question which was raised was of a financial character, but the noble and learned lord avoided reminding your lordships that the question as to the movement of the Indian troops beyond the boundaries of India was not in the course of those discussions for a moment referred to. (Hear, hear.) That my lords is my answer to the two great points of the speech of the noble and learned lord. I maintain, and those who act with me maintain, that there is no allusion to the native Indian army in the Mutiny Act—that, that Act refers to the European, the right troops of Her Majesty. I cannot believe that any one who has listened to my noble and learned friend on the woolsack could not be successfully asserted. There is, then, an end of one of the great bases on which the question urged by the noble and learned lord was founded ; and with regard to the other—namely, the illegality of the Indian treasury bearing for the moment certain expenditure. I think your lordships must feel that, that was really trifling with the question. (Hear.)

So far as we in India are concerned, we must confess that in our humble opinion the answer of Lord Beaconsfield was satisfactory. In the first place the Indian troops will have the pleasure and privilege of serving their Sovereign in Europe in an imminent crisis under her august command, and in the second place the Indian revenue would not be burdened with the cost of the service. But Lord Beaconsfield's statement was not defence but defiance. Fortified by an overwhelm-majority in the House of Commons his Lordship thus thundered forth :

I do not think that discussions like the present at this moment are of public advantage. (Hear, hear.) If the noble and learned lord who introduced this question believed that we have acted contrary to the Constitution, he ought to act up to his bold phrases and come forward declaring his belief that our action was unconstitutional and that it was his duty to ask the opinion of Parliament upon it. The noble earl who last spoke said he did not do that because he did not like to be in a minority. But you will never be in a majority if your nerves are so delicate. (Laughter.) You must assert your opinions without fear, and if they are just, and true and right, you will ultimately be supported by the country. But at this moment I do not think they are just, true, or right ; or rather I would say, although it has been said so often it may be repeated, that what is true is not new, and what is new is not true. (Laughter and cheers.) That is my general view of the speech of the noble and learned lord. It has given us an opportunity of hearing my noble and learned friend on the woolsack make a completely exhaustive discourse on this subject and I hope to-morrow the moral and beneficial effects of this discussion will be felt not only in this House, but in the country. I must for a moment revert to what I can assure the House I would like to have passed over, for I have no wish to regard matters of this kind with too serious a feeling. I have expressed my regret that this discussion had arisen at this particular moment. My lips are sealed. I should like, of course, and all my colleagues would, I am sure like, if we could come forward and do that which we should be prepared and glad to do—to vindicate our policy and give our reasons, which I hope would be satisfactory to the country, for all the measures that we have recommended and introduced.

The debate in the House of Commons was much tamer, and although the ministers went into explanations at length, the spirit was the same. The Government stood upon its own strength ; if the Opposition censured the conduct of Government, let them pass a vote of no confidence, and an appeal to the country would test national opinion on the subject. Perhaps the ministerial crisis is drawing nigh.

UNVEILED !

READER ! it is not a statue unveiled, but truth unveiled, of which we propose to give a brief account. It is well known that at the commencement of the Famine in Madras and Bombay in 1876-77, the local Governments and the Government of India were not in perfect accord. The outside public heard nothing about it except some low murmurings now and then, and deprecated much this want of harmony and cordiality between the guardians of the people. From what they heard and saw they concluded that the local Governments were right and the Government of India wrong. Some official papers have been lately published, which fully confirm the impression of the public. These papers refer to the disputes which had arisen between the Government of Bombay and the Government of India. The whole question is reviewed by the Viceroy in a minute dated the 8th February 1877. His Excellency as usual is frank and honorable, though somewhat biassed in favour of his colleagues. The issues between the Bombay Government and the Government of India were, 1stly, that relief should be administered on a large scale, and 2ndly that relief works should be undertaken on a commensurate scale. The Viceroy at the outset acknowledges that at the first onset of the famine campaign he was not prepared to decide the issues between the two Governments. He remarks : "I need hardly say that I neither had formed nor was competent to form any deeply seated opinion on the relative merits of the various principles which have been from time to time propounded or adopted, for the management of a great Indian famine in all its phases, such a task never having come within the scope of my previous experience. Again, I consider that the only course properly open to me was the one I adopted, *viz.*, to leave untrammelled to my colleagues in council, whose experience on such subjects was greater than my own, the conduct of all correspondence about relief operations and other matters connected with the scarcity, affording them, in the discharge of their anxious task, that unreserved support on which they were entitled to reckon." And how did his colleagues repay the confidence thus reposed in them ? The Viceroy says, "I must here observe that, ever since I assumed charge of the Supreme Government, it has been my earnest and constant endeavour to maintain, both person-

ally and officially, the most frank and cordial relations with His Excellency theGovernor of Bombay. Finding that the official intercourse between the two Governments was not altogether free from mutual irritation and mistrust, I have been at some pains to read with care and occasionally to correct with my own hand, letters, drafted on current business of a kind too trivial to engage the personal attention of the Viceroy, had it not been for the Viceroy's anxiety to prevent the inadvertent use of any expression which might appear to him likely to offend the susceptibilities of correspondents predisposed to take offence. But it is my sincere belief that the President in Council could not, consistently with that high sense of public duty which has characterised his long and eminent career, have sanctioned off-hand and in absolute ignorance of the extent and duration of the financial liabilities the Government of India would thereby incur, all the applications for the commencement of large relief works first addressed to him by the Government of Bombay in the latter end of October." What a revelation! The Government of India was in a state of chronic antagonism with the Government of Bombay, and to their mutually irritated feelings were sacrificed the interests of the people. The Government of India would not believe the Government of Bombay as to the magnitude of the calamity. The Viceroy says, "at the time I left Simla the scarcity, which has since assumed such serious dimensions was of a very limited character, nor were the Local Governments with whom we had been in correspondence about it any better able than ourselves to predict its probable duration or extent, these being dependent on the timeliness and abundance of the rainfall due at a later period." But what does the Secretary of State, to whom appeal was made, say? Lord Salisbury observes, "the Government of Bombay were, from an early period of opinion that the calamity should be treated as one of great magnitude, and that consequently relief works should be organised on a large scale. Proceeding on the assumption of a widespread famine, which events have unhappily justified, their policy was evidently sound." Again: "The Government of Bombay deserve great credit for the accuracy with which they foresaw the gravity of the calamity that was impending, and the energy of the measures which they took to meet it. At a greater distance from the localities where the distress was showing itself, the Government of India for some time were disposed to wait for more conclusive evidence, and in the meantime to be guided by the general principle that relief works ought to be proportionate to the distress they were intended to relieve, both in respect to duration and extent. When the evidence was more fully laid before them, the Government of India resolved to sanction a system of larger works, in view of the wider distress which it was necessary to relieve." But is this a defence of the pertinacity with which the Government of India first opposed the proposals of the Bombay Government? The Government of India is an advocate of decentralization, but here was a case in which the lives of the people were in jeopardy, and in this case the judgment of the responsible local Government was persistently set at naught. The moment Lord Lytton was beyond the unhealthy atmosphere of the Government of India and breathed the uncontaminated air of Bombay, his Lordship's mind was relieved of the weight which had oppressed it. His Lordship says:

"But, immediately after my arrival at Bombay, I became aware that this correspondence was regarded by the Government of that Presidency as irreconcilable with the discretion left to it by our telegram of the 16th of October, and acknowledged with satisfaction in its own telegram of the 24th of the same month, with regard to expenditure on relief works. I had also the advantage of meeting at Bombay Sir John Strachey, whose personal experience of previous famines in India had led him to form a very strong opinion adverse to the continuation of small local relief works, and in favor of commencing large ones at the earliest possible state of any serious scarcity. The arguments in support of this opinion, which I need not recapitulate appeared to me forcibly illustrated by all I learned of what was actually taking place in the affected district at the time I visited Bombay. I, therefore, came to the conclusion that relief works upon a large scale were urgently needed and that whatever the cause to which it might be attributeable the delay in commencing them could not be safely prolonged."

His Lordship continues:

"I am of opinion that when it became evident that the correspondence between the two Governments on this subject was not conducive to a prompt and satisfactory settlement of the points in dispute, it would have been well to close that correspondence, so far as it concerned matters of details by deputing some competent and conciliatory officer to proceed to Bombay for the purpose of settling all such matters in personal communication with the Local Government. But I must at once acknowledge that this is an opinion formed after the fact; for, to say the truth, it was not until I had reached Bombay, on my way to Delhi, that I became fully conscious either of the irritation which the correspondence of the preceeding month had occasioned to the Government of that Presidency, or of the gravity of all the circumstances which determined my prompt decision that relief works, on a large scale, ought to be immediately opened.

Being also satisfied that the principles on which the Bombay Government was dealing with difficulties of its situation were sound and judicious, I omitted no opportunity of encouraging its efforts by giving public and cordial expression to my approval of its proceedings and my confidence in its discretion.

Almost simultaneously with, or immediately after, the public utterances made by myself in this sense on behalf of the Government of India, the Government of Bombay received a letter from the President in Council referring to various matters of detail. The terms of this letter were in accordance with the principles previously laid down by the Government of India, and those principles were not (in my opinion at least) incompatible with the famine policy which the Bombay Government was then pursuing. But some portions of this letter were regarded by that Government as impediments to action urgently needed in the then existing condition of local affairs.

Believing that the latter was not intended to have this effect, and being also satisfied by the information furnished me on the spot, that delayed action might have injurious results, I at once addressed a private letter to the President in Council, urgently requesting the immediate revocation of this letter; but my letter did not reach Delhi previous to my own arrival there. I then ascertained that a copy of the letter had been already forwarded to the Secretary of State; but, within a few days afterwards, my colleagues in Council agreed to recall that letter, and substitute for it one from which the paragraphs complained of by the Local Government should be omitted. It was not possible to draft the submitted letter thus agreed upon, previous to the return of Sir Philip Wodehouse to Bombay: but on the eve of His Excellency's departure from Delhi, I informed him that the original letter was withdrawn, and that he would speedily receive another letter on the same subject which was to be substituted for it, and from which the passages to which he had called my attention in the first document would be omitted. I took this occasion of expressing to His Excellency my hope that the arrangement thus explained would terminate a correspondence which could not be continued without detriment to the interests of the Empire, under circumstances of serious difficulty, imperatively demanding the loyal and energetic co-operation of all its administrators.

His Excellency gave me to understand that the arrangement in question was satisfactory to himself and his Government, and that the controversy it was intended to close would be considered by him as set at rest.

My surprise has, therefore, been great on reading for the first time in the local newspapers the Resolution of the Bombay Government to which this and the foregoing minutes have reference.

All this does honor to Lord Lytton, but what revelations have we here about the relations between the Government of Bombay and the Government of India! Strange to say that the Secretary of State, though substantially supporting the Government of Bombay in the views it had advanced, does not say a word expressive of his disapprobation of the conduct of the Government of India, which sacrificed the momentous interests of humanity from irritated official feelings. This is the way our affairs are administered; the public have no knowledge of the way in which the wires are pulled behind; when the curtain is unlifted we then find that our masters are as much swayed by unworthy feelings of rivalry and antagonism as rival shopkeepers, though the interests at stake affect the deepest concerns of humanity.

IMPERIALISM IN INDIA.

THE LONDON EXAMINER of the 18th ultimo publishes a remarkable article on Imperialism in India, being a letter from Calcutta. The writer says, "men regarded the first day of 1877 as the dawn of a brighter day both for England and India. The reign of law and civilized rule was about to commence. The days of broken pledges, ruined families, impoverished ryots and imperfect justice were passed. We were at last going to give the natives of India a share in the government of their own country; we were going to strengthen at the same time our hold upon the soil and upon the hearts of the people; tighten the bonds of conquest and of mutual interest. Men were, however, quickly awakened from this bright dream, and they discovered that the ceremony at Delhi marked not the beginning of a new era of Liberal Government, but of tawdry Imperialism." "At the very moment Lord Lytton was proclaiming Her Majesty Empress with all possible pomp and show," continues the writer, "some millions of her subjects were suffering from the most terrible of all pangs—the pangs of hunger. The Imperial Government had been warned of the calamity months before, but they refused to recognise the existence of famine because they feared it would interfere with the Delhi show. The show over, Sir Richard Temple was sent on his special mission. Then followed the discreditable squabbles between the Supreme and the Local Governments. Sir Philip Wodehouse and Sir Michael Kennedy, by their tenacity and firmness, saved the Bombay Presidency, but in Madras the state of the country grew worse day by day. At last the Duke of Buckingham, goaded to desperation, appealed to English opinion and English charity. Then the Supreme Government, at first too unconcerned, and afterwards too dogmatic, saw the errors of their way, and Lord Lytton paid a visit to the affected districts. It would have been better if he had visited them months before, instead of keeping a sham continental court at Calcutta and Simla." Then the writer notices the Resolution prohibiting public servants to memorialize the Government in a body. He says, "Imperialism could not understand that the right to petition the Crown is rightly considered the dearest privilege of an Englishman. To prevent a responsible body of men from stating all complaints is the surest method of creating a discontented body of public servants. A discontented body of public servants means danger to the security of the Empire. A Government may if it pleases take pleasure in regulating its dealings with its servants after the examples of the sharpest and most despotic of monarchs, but it must be prepared to reap the serious and lasting disadvantage of such a course. The civilians in India soon learnt why the Imperial Government had a rooted objection to memorials."

The writer then passes on to the demoralizing process of decoration. He says: "Imperialism has a gift for ceremonial and a passion for orders and ribbons. The Bonapartes loved to bedizen their courtiers with tinsel decorations; and the pinchbeck Imperial Court at Calcutta, fashioned after the pattern of the Second Court of the Empire, celebrated the anniversary of its birth by the creation of a new Brummagem order. However, not satisfied with decorating themselves, the Imperialists determined to decorate their wives and the *Gazette of India* announced the creation of the Order of the Crown of India for ladies. The time chosen was inopportune. Men could not help remembering that during the year, under our civilized rule, in Madras and Mysore alone, two millions of people had died from the vulgar want of food. It was the pale, genuine shadow of Death being ceremoniously ushered along by the grinning shadows of etiquette." Referring to the License tax the writer says: "The Bill compelled the poor tradesman, living in some wretched hovel, to pay for the prices of famines, but it exempted the wealthy barrister or rich civilian. Its first fruit has been the serious rioting at Surat, where the inhabitants objected to the inquisitorial character of the forms used to obtain the information considered necessary to enable Government to arrange the tax-payers in their respective classes. These forms make the License Tax as objectionable as the Income Tax to tradesmen, who naturally object to their private affairs being enquired into by petty officials." The writer makes the following remarks on the Vernacular Press Act:

"Imperialism bears not the healthy breeze of criticism, and, flushed with success or disquieted by fear, it does not have the sense to remain quiet. Imperialism, without a press law and official censors, seemed to Lord Lytton and his Council incomplete, and in a few hours they passed a Bill which deprived some millions of Her Majesty's subjects of the freedom of speech. *Facilis descensus Averni* seems to be the history of all Imperialism. Not more than a year before, at the very Delhi assemblage from which we are to date a new era of national progress, Lord Lytton received a deputation from the Native Press, and in his speech he confessed that he would be an unworthy representative of Her Majesty the Queen "if he could for one moment doubt the loyalty of *any* portion of Her Majesty's Indian subjects." It was also with especial pleasure that he received the loyal sentiments (contained in the native editor's address) from gentlemen whom he recognised as the "natural

and acknowledged exponents of the opinions of the people of this country." He also added that "Her Majesty's Government, and, in fact no Government can give satisfaction to every section of the community, and therefore *it must be prepared to be criticised.*"

A year after this, Lord Lytton and his Government have muzzled the native press because it dared to tell an unflattering tale. In spite of the Viceroy's smooth sayings, the whole native public cannot help regarding the bill as an expression of profound mistrust. Lord Lytton has proclaimed to the world that our despotism, tempered by a free press and constitutional forms, has proved a failure. England wished to exhibit to the world the noble spectacle of a vast population learning to govern itself under the auspices of superior benevolence and wisdom. It may be that this was an illusion, but at least it sprang from a generous and high-minded feeling, and it had the effect of imbuing a conquering race with sentiments of moderation. The veil, thin as it may have been, has been torn away. We have now entered upon an Imperial policy which has hitherto made tyrants of mother-countries and rebels of dependencies. It is for the House of Commons to decide whether India is to be governed after the pattern of continental despotism. The greatest service Englishmen can render to the world is to be true to their own institutions and to have some faith in the stability of a government founded on their models.

There are other points of Imperialism, which the writer has not touched upon. For instance, the spirit of modern legislation has been to exalt the executive over the judiciary, to repress the liberty of the subject, to enlarge the range of discretionary Government. A law has been passed to disarm the people. A despatch has been published to reduce the armies of the Native Princes. It is rumoured that a Secret Police will be established. Thus within a year and a half the standard of imperialism repressive and coercive has been unfurled. The people are loyal and devoted to the Crown, but the tendency of imperialism seems to be to undermine their loyalty. Lord Lytton is personally respected, but the people wonder when in his name these arbitrary acts of imperialism are proclaimed. Who is responsible for the imperial programme? In this country we know not the author of it, but perhaps the light may come from England.

THE NATIVE FEELING IN THE PUNJAB.

AS WE had anticipated the recent attitude of the Punjab Government towards the President of the local Anjuman, Dr. Lietner, regarding the proposed Educational Congress, has dealt out a deadly blow at Native Society there. English education is still in its infancy in the Punjab; public spirit, a desire for mutual co-operation, and unity, are virtues, which are just beginning to be appreciated; to weld the heterogenous elements into a cohesive mass. Dr. Lietner had done a great deal; at this moment the Government could not have done a greater mischief than to imply its displeasure with the Punjab Anjuman, which is the visible embodiment of the new movement. But the deed has been done, and the mischief is extending apace. Several letters have been published in the *Civil and Military Gazette*, which shew a complete disruption between Old and Young Punjab:

"On the 24th April a general meeting of the Anjuman was held to consider the resignation, which its president, Dr. Lietner had sent in, on grounds now so well known to the public. After the resignation had been read and translated it was considered advisable by a majority, that before accepting it, a sub-committee should be appointed to investigate how far the charges brought against the President by one of the Anjuman's own members were correct. A sub-committee, consisting of nine members, was accordingly appointed; Sardar Dyal Singh was its president, Pundit Ram Narain its Secretary, and Pundit Suraj Bul, Babu Portul Chandur Chatterje and a few others were its members. This sub-committee held several meetings at the house of Pandit Suraj Bul and had very nigh brought their proceedings to a close. But just at the eleventh hour Munshi Mohamap Latif who was appointed to defend the Anjuman and its President, absented himself. This necessarily stopped the business. And it was under these circumstances when I may fairly presume the result must begin to appear foreboding that the Raeesis thought of dispensing with the sub-committee and burking it's report altogether. However, to give their scheme the appearance of formality, a short notice was served upon Pandit Ram Narain, the Sub-Secretary asking him to submit the report within a couple of days. He protested against such haste, but nothing could influence them. Big people who seldom made their appearance when any important public question was discussed, now all came in a body to see whether they could not succeed in their object. Khan Barkat Ali Khan opened the meeting by a speech explaining the object with which it was convened. Raja Hurbans Singh presided, and there were about thirty gentlemen present. Pandit Ram Narain replied that the report would shortly be ready and that it looked arbitrary on the part of the present meeting that it should illegally do away with a sub-committee legally appointed by a previous general meeting; the delay he said had arisen partly in consiquence of the default of the Anjuman's Secretary and partly in consequence of no stated time having been fixed for the sub-committee within which it was to submit it's report. He was therefore for adjournment. Pandit Suraj Bul and others followed him, who expressed the same opinion, and also remarked that in stifling an enquiry which had been constitutionally set on foot, they were taking a wrong step. But the Raeesis were inexorable. They would listen to no argument. They would suppress the sub-committee and quash it's proceedings. Seeing such a state of things, Babu Partul Chander Chatterji M. A., B. L., proposed a resolution "whether this meeting was empowered by the rules of the Anjuman or by any president of any other similar body to suppress a sub-committee, constitutionally appointed at a previous general meeting and against which nothing had been alleged or proved." This resolution being put to the vote was lost by a majority of two.

The proceedings of the original meeting referred to above were as follows:

"The Anjuman are of opinion that the SubCommittee appointed to consider the alleged irregularities of the Anjuman in connection with the late Educational Congress was started under suspicious circumstances and subversive of the very purpose for which the general meeting was called, still the Anjuman allowed the Sub-Committee six weeks in order to enquire into the accusations brought by Lala Piari Lal, and gave every facility for collecting information and arriving at the truth. No report, however, in spite of due notice, has been handed by them, and the general meeting now are unanimously of opinion that these charges are utterly groundless and absolutely malicious. Resolved, therefore, that this Sub-Committee be abolished, and that its proceedings be declared *null* and *void*, and the Anjuman now proceed to consider the original object for which the last General Meeting was called together, *viz*,, to consider what means should be adopted in order to induce its President to withdraw his resignation. The matter having then been put to the vote, the Sub-Committee was abolished, and its members resigned in consequence. The proposal therefore of the business committee that a deputation of the *Raises* and members should wait on the President, with a view of inducing him to reconsider his decision, is accordingly carried.

The feeling, which these differences have produced, may be gathered from the following extract, which we make from a letter of Munshi Mahomed Lutif, Secretary to the Anjuman:

With regard to the members of the sub-committee, far be it from me to impugn their honesty or ability, but it stands to reason that the Anjuman could no longer tolerate the existence of a body which had been created under circumstances which left no doubt as to the motives of its founder. In the meanwhile, considerable time had elapsed, and it became painfully obvious that the sub-commitee could not find out anything without constant reference to the Secretary and to the books of Anjuman. So that at once the question arose, what is the use of a sub-committee at all, and why should not the Anjuman answer these charges itself, considering that it is alone in a position to do so thoroughly? In the meanwhile, it should not be forgotten that the longer the reply was delayed the more ungracious was the conduct of the Anjuman towards its president, in not considering his resignation which had put a stop to the work of the society. Five to six weeks had already passed, I supplied every information for which I was asked, and I attended all the meetings I could, and it is very unfair to me to say that because at the final meeting of the sub-committee, I merely forwarded my *written* statement, instead of attending personally, *which was not at all necessary.* Their report should not have been submitted before the general meeting of the Anjuman, especially as they had got a last reminder a week before, and not two days as the "ex-member of the Anjuman" says.

The Anjuman could not tolerate any longer that a body of young members should sit in judgment on the founders and supporters of the society, simply with a view of showing their knowledge of procedure at meetings in England, of which they probably know as little as we do, and which at any rate do not apply to our society. They are not the men who have founded the University and other institutions, but the *raeses* are, and they have done so in hearty co-operation with the Government and officials, which would never have been done by the pleaders and native school-masters, who cooly represent themselves now as "waging the battle of light against darkness." The only essential difference between the Anjuman and the sub-committee is this: that the sub-committee wish to become the masters of the Anjuman founded by other people's money and trouble, instead of giving the benefit of their legal and scholastic attainments in hearty and unselfish co-operation with the *raeses*, towards the common good. If they do not wish to remain in a body, whose special object is to cultivate friendly relations between officials and the people, by all means let them leave us and concentrate all their strength on the good objects of the East India Association.

We regret much this state of feeling among the members of the Anjuman. They ought to remember that their society is young, that united they can do a great deal, that disunited they may fall beneath the slightest gust of wind that may pass over them. On the one side we see the flower of the educated natives of the Punjab arrayed, on the other the wealth, rank, and influence of Native Society enlisted. Both are important factors in the regeneration of the community. Both have their own spheres of action and influence. Both are allied to each other, and both have a common object in view. Why should they then thus divide? Is there not one man among them, who can throw oil over the the troubled waters? Is there not one among them, who can lift himself from the narrow groove of self or clique, take a broad view of the whole subject, and bring about a reconciliation between the contending parties? Want of unity was the bane of India in times past, and we hope our countrymen at the present day feel sufficiently the effects of that great evil so as to recognize the necessity of averting it to the best of their ability. We do not wish to express any opinion on the merits of the question, which has caused this unfortunate difference between the two sections of Native Society in the Punjab. We appeal to the good sense, intelligence and patriotism of both parties, and venture to express a hope that they will merge individual and sectional differences for the sake of the common weal of society.

THE SURAT TRIALS.

WE HAD purposely abstained from commenting on the Surat trials as we did not wish to anticipate the judgment of the Magistrate. But the way in which the trials are being conducted and the facts which have come to light require that the public voice should be raised without prejudging the real merits of the case. A Reign of Terror, says the *Bombay Gazette*, prevails at Surat. Our contemporary says," we simply mean that the inhabitants of Surat are panic-stricken at the conduct of the authorities. They have been accustomed to hear of British justice, and they point to Mr. Lely's proceedings and ask whether this *is* British justice. The exercise of a little discretion on the part of the Government officials would by this time have allayed a great deal of the irritation caused by the signal failure of the inhabitants of Surat to resist the imposition of the License-tax; but instead of any tact being used, we see nothing but a display of senseless, querulous and spiteful judicial proceedings which must be simply disastrous to public peace of mind in Guzrat. Lord Lytton, who recently ordered that the Vernacular Press Act should not have retrospective effect, and whose principal argument for introducing the new Act was that the present powers possessed by Government under the Criminal Procedure Code are insufficient to deal properly with unwise vernacular editors, ought to find in these Surat trials a good deal of matter for valuable reflection. Surely, if a number of contemptible newspaper writers can be apprehended and dragged about the country to suit the convenience of a Magistrate long after anything they may have written has appeared, and if a band of military can shoot down, without authority, several people in a mob who may by a stretch of imagina-

tion be supposed to have been excited to riotous acts by the lucubrations of these editors, then there was very little need for passing a new Vernacular Press Act : the existing powers of summary and violent repression were quite sufficient for all practical purposes." The reader knows what followed after the suppression of the riots at the point of the bayonet. Scores of the rioters have been convicted, and sentenced to rigorous imprisonment or transportation. But a new fuel has been added to the flame. A vakil and two vernacular editors have been arraigned by the Police, and as these vernacular editors are in ill odour with the Government, the Police it is said are active in implicating them. How the prosecution is being conducted is apparent from the letters from the special correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette*. The correspondent lately wrote :

" On the case of the two native editors of Surat and four others being called out there was no witness for the prosecution ready for examination. An adjournment for eight days was applied for, which Mr. Pherozsha Mehta, on behalf of the defence, vehemently contested, as likely, if granted, to do immense harm to the accused. The public prosecutor asseverated that he was helpless ; that two of his witnesses had disappeared from Bulsar that Mr. Motilal, the Police Inspector, had been sent off at 2 o'clock that morning to hunt them up in Surat ; that the whole city was ranged on one side, while on the other stood the Sirkar alone ; that there were great difficulties in the way of the prosecution ; and that a panacea for them all, he thought, was an adjournment for eight or even four days, and a transfer of the case back to Surat. Mr. Mehta protested eloquently against the application. The Magistrate said the prosecution made the inital mistake of arresting the accused before their case was complete. It was too late, however, to regret it ; and the only question he had to consider was whether, in the interests of justice, an adjournment for further inquiry was necessary ? The case was, he said, commenced owing to pressure put by the court and the prosecution never professed to have completed their investigation, besides the matter required time thoroughly to probe it. A substantial case had been established against at least three of the accused ; and he thought he should be incurring a grave responsibility if he insisted on proceedings to a decision that day on the imperfect materials before him. He, therefore, adjourned the case until Monday next ; and at the request of public prosecutor, in order to expedite the hearing, agreed to resume proceedings on that day at Surat."

Could anything be more reprehensible than the way the case has been got up, marshalled, and laid before the Magistrate. The witnesses were not ready—were they being drilled by the Police ? The case was not ripe—why was it then constituted at all ? The Magistrate said that the prosecution made the initial mistake of arresting the accused without waiting to see that the case was complete. Then the case was being sent backward and forward from Balsur to Surat, and all this time the accused, their witnesses, their friends and relatives, were put to no end of trouble, harassment, and expense in consequence of this rotatory motion of the Court. Is this, we ask, in the words of the *Bombay Gazette*, British Justice ? But this is not all. Of the six prisoners three were enlarged on bail and the other three, the vakil and the two vernacular editors, were remanded to jail. Of course the Magistrate had discretion in the matter, but whether it was rightly exercised or not will be seen hereafter. The Magistrate had refused bail, but the Police managed to put the unfortunate persons in irons. We are told that on the next day they were produced before the Court with handcuffs on, "an iron rod passing through each "handcuff, and tightened with padlocks fastened "at each end of the rod. They were also secured with ropes tied to the right arm of each of "the three accused." Their Counsel, Mr. Mehta, who has shewn great firmness, courage and independence in defending the prisoners, protested against the conduct of the Police, and charged them with gross contempt of court. Mr. Motilal, the Police Inspector, as usual, shifted the charge on to the shoulders of a poor jail naik or orderly. The jail naik had gone to consult him as to whether the accused were to be hand-cuffed or not ; but he gave no answer. The Magistrate, strange to say, was quite satisfied with this barefaced explanation, and defended Motilal's conduct. We read, "the Magistrate admitted that there was not the slightest fear of the accused attempting to escape, and that therefore he had ordered the accused not to be manacled." Another version says : "The Magistrate *did not think the strictures upon the police inspector were justifiable ;* and directed a written order to be sent to the jail authorities not to hand-cuff the accused." Such is the way the poor prisoners are being treated. We do not know how far they are implicated in this case, but why should they be punished before conviction ? Then, again, assuming that they are guilty, their offence is a political one. They sought to incite a demonstration to relieve the people of the burden of taxation. They did not seek to overturn the Government or to foment a rebellion. Of course they were very stupid in what they did. We have no sympathy with those who in political agitation leave the lawful and constitutional means, and take to the wicked mode of intimidation or unlawful resistance to constituted authority. At the same time political prisoners in all ages and countries have received consideration. But in this instance they were manacled against the order of the Magistrate and that before conviction. Even conviction under the Indian Penal Code does not carry irons. And yet the Magistrate had not a word of reproof for the Police Inspector. Was not Mr. Lely, the Magistrate, the same officer, who in the columns of the *Economist* about two years ago vented his wrath against the Vernacular Press, and recommended its summary suppression ? He now sits in judgment over the two unfortunate vernacular editors. Well does the *Bombay Gazette* say, whom we quote again :

" The late riots were an unfortunate outbreak of stupidity, but we think they were almost sufficiently severly treated when a lot of sepoys were allowed to fire among the rioters without orders and slay two or three of them and wound others. It is healing measures now that are wanted in Surat, not official tyrannies which will thrice scarify the wound. Yet let the judicial proceedings in Surat be calmly examined, and we think that every reason will be found why the Bombay Government should immediately stay its hand. We know that occasionally in the mofussil strange travesties of British justice are enacted, and so long as their effects are confined to narrow limits and are not likely to cause widespread political effects, perhaps little harm is caused if they do not get that publicity which has fortunately been given to the Surat riots ; but when petty official tyrannies are super-imposed upon an exceedingly excited state of public feeling, which has been aroused by a sense of the injustice of erroneous class legislation, that is a time when every English official ought to discard prejudices and settle down to make peace by every means in his power. This has not been done in Surat—at all events, we think it has not. On the contrary, there appears to have been an unworthy spirit of revenge dominating the conduct of the authorities in trying the rioters, and we would ask the Bombay Government to interpose its authority and refuse to permit an undignified course of judicial procedure to go further. Nothing will be gained if it is not checked : on the other hand, a great deal of mischief will be the result. Reigns of Terror do not pass off in India without political effects, and these ought to be mitigated as much as possible by every Government that desired to rule peaceably and successfully an alien country. Yes the poor wretches who were goaded to rise against constituted authorities have been more than sufficiently punished. A number of them have been imprisoned or transported to the Andamans, and the gentle treatment of the rest at the hands of the police is enough to make their life intolerable. The majesty of the law has been vindicated and the authorities should rise superor to petty feelings and keep themselves off from a course of conduct which to say the least is quite unworthy of them."

We entirely concur. These Surat trials reflect upon the Government, although the Government for ought we know to the contrary is entirely ignorant of the manner in which the case is being marshalled and the prisoners being treated. May we draw the attention of Sir Richard Temple to the propriety of vindicating the good name of his Government for morderation, justice and mercy.

THE POST OFFICE OF INDIA.
No. I.

WITHIN the last two years we have had occasion more than once to draw the attention of the Postal authorities to some of the defects and abuses, which prevail in the department. The abuses referred to, we have reasons to believe, did attract the attention of Government, but little has been done to remedy them. Within the last twelve months or more there have certainly been changes and innovations, but every change is not a reform. These changes have been introduced on the pretext of combining economy, efficiency and thoroughness of work. But what is the result ? Complaints continue to pour in upon us regarding inconvenient postal arrangements, flagrant jobberies, and capricious exercise of power. It may be a very safe and prudent policy to silence the clamour of those troublesome people, the inhabitants of the Presidency Towns, by making concessions to them, but we cannot forget that the Indian Postal system comprehends Presidency towns, district-towns, rural towns and villages, and a forward attention to the wants of a few important towns does not imply due attention to public wants. Even in the Presidency towns this attention is not equally spread, but partial and one-sided. One great excuse made for the inconvenient arrangements referred to is economy. Economy is certainly a very good thing, but it ought to be real, tangible, substantial, and not a make-believe one. This plea of economy has led to the reduction of the salaries of Post Masters and Deputy Post Masters, and the abolition of a number of delivery peons, runners, carriers, and train peons, and of rural postal offices, and the result has been that mails come very late, deliveries are irregular and dilatory, and papers and covers are not unfrequently missent and misdirected. We say this from personal experience, and if it were not for the pressure of business in our office we could have swamped the Post Office with complaints from our Mofussil subscribers. It is only now and then that we bring the most flagrant cases to notice. Very lately a subscriber wrote to us to say : "Postal complaints are not taken notice of. I had lately transmitted two applications—one for the recovery of an issue of the *Hindoo Patriot* which being sent from the Press to my address at *Mundlye via* Pandooah and Ilsoba Post Offices had been redirected to Sakrigulli, and because I happened not to be at home at the time when it came back, I never saw its face again, though I enquired about it ; another time two letters of mine were detained for some time because there were no postage stamps at the Ilsoba Post Office ; I complained about this irregularity but no notice ; was taken of it." But we pass by this case as involving some accidents, which when occurring now and then may be overlooked.

In Calcutta since the introduction of the new arrangement under which mails arriving at the Calcutta Post Office are sorted twice, once on arrival at the Calcutta Post Office and again on their arrival at the Sub-Post Offices in the several outposts of the town, the deliveries are always made late, the morning delivery made not uneften after the majority of the people working in the town had left their homes. This double sorting involves delay, but the plea urged in defence is that it enables the office to have better control over its subordinates. We do not understand the sort of control referred to. Do the Postal authorities mean that better control is secured by the sorting being effected in a sub-office far removed from efficient supervision than when it takes place under the eye of the Post Master, and under the supervision of his immediately responsible subordinates ? One thing is certain, the advantage is doubtful, while the disadvantage arising from delay is certain, and aggravating. But economy in this case as in many other cases is purely imaginary. Under the old system the Post Office had a number of Accellerators, say about a dozen, which had been built at a cost of about Rs. 500 each, we give the amount by guess, the draught animals were supplied by Messrs. Cook and Co, who changed them twice or thrice every day receiving for the service Rs. 1,000 a month as subsidy. This sum has been saved, but the Accellerators lie idle as useless dead stock, while four or more mail carts have been built at about the same rate of cost if not more and an equal number of horses purchased, to which outlay add the cost

of maintenance and risk of death of the horses. So much for economy.

We will take another case, which gives us an insight into the working of the new system in a higher office than that of a Post Master, and the wisdom which regulates and controls the postal business of the territory comprising the Lieutenant Governorship of Bengal. A subscriber living at Budge Budge complained that he receives his paper always on the third day. Now, Budge Budge being about 16 miles from Calcutta, and the Post Office being on this side of the river, letters and papers for that office for places within its circle ought always to reach at least on the second if not the first day. We called for the wrapper and we saw that it bore the Post Marks of the Calcutta Post Office, the Behala Post Office and the office of delivery. We begged of the Post Master of Calcutta to inform us why covers for Budge Budge should go to Behala before reaching the office of delivery. The Post Master of Calcutta referred our complaint to the Post Master General of Bengal, and that authority gave the following Delphic response:

"Budge Budge is a small office and is sufficiently served by a night despatch. The manager of the *Hindoo Patriot* may be so informed."

The complaint was why covers for Budge Budge should perform a circuitous journey *via* Behala, and why the despatch is not made direct to Budge Budge. The Behala Post Office lies on the Diamond Harbour Road, Budge Budge is on the Midnapore Road. The fact that both Behala and Budge Budge are branches of the Calcutta Post Office, which makes direct station packets for those offices, strikes us that the arrangement in question is most odd, if not something worse. Whether an office be small or large, if it be kept up, one despatch must be made to it and that at an hour which will prevent detention of covers in the despatching office, and provision should be made that the mail on its arrival should be opened and delivered as soon as possible. If economy does not admit of this provision the office ought to be closed. Is it not disgraceful that the Post Office should take 24 hours to perform a work which a private messenger may do in twelve? Mails for Budge Budge we humbly think might very well be carried in an outerbag along with the Midnapore and Orissa Mails and dropped on the road to be taken by a peon from Budge Budge.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE ARE GLAD to notice that both the Calcutta and Poona petitions against the Vernacular Press Act have reached Mr. Gladstone, who has presented them to Parliament. We hope there will be a debate on the subject.

WE ARE exceedingly sorry to record the death of Raja Kalinarain Roy Chowdry of Bhowal. He was a fine old Bengali gentleman of the ancient type. Fairly educated in the oriental languages, of polished manners, fond of music, and himself a no mean musician, charitable, public-spirited, and kind to his tenantry, he was highly esteemed by those who knew him. His mantle has happily fallen upon a worthy son, who is an example of liberal feeling and enlightened generosity to East Bengal.

THE British Indian Association urged upon the Government of India the propriety of appointing a member to the Famine Commission acquainted with Bengal, inasmuch as the scope of the enquiry by the Commission embraces the whole empire, and as all other divisions of the empire are represented in it, Bengal should not go unrepresented. But the Government of India has refused to comply with this request, because the number of members appointed to the Commission is already large, but it has intimated that the suggestions of the Association will be considered by the Commission. We do not quite agree with the Government. Bengal is a most important province, and it ought not to go unrepresented in the Famine Commission. The Association would not care whether the Bengal representative were an official or a non-official, and surely it would not have inconvenienced the Government to select a suitable official member from Bengal. How is at that the Bengal Government has not urged this matter upon the Government of India?

THE MUNICIPAL scandal is becoming serious. We have seen that the Chairman on his own responsibility incurred last year an expenditure of nearly two lacs of rupees on account of night-soil arrangements, which was passed by the Commissioners after a vigorous and indignant protest. At last Saturday's sitting of the Corporation the Chairman submitted a statement shewing that more than a lac of rupees had been expended by him during 1877, irrespective of night-soil charges, for which he now sought a bill of indemnity! This is the way deficits are produced in Municipal accounts. Then the scandals connected with the Collector's Department have become notorious. But more remains behind. During the current quarter not one-third of the gross demand on account of the several rates has been collected. Thus:

	House-rate		Water-rate	
April to June 20	Demand	Collection	Demand	Collection
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	329,344	90,133	150,978	50,146
"	Police-rate		Lighting-rate	
	97,770	33,288	87,308	26,989
	Gross demand		Gross collection	
2nd quarter 1877	Rs.	597,874	Rs.	465 2 7
Do. Do. 1878	Rs.	665,462	Rs.	203,258

Now, how can the Municipality pay its way when the collections are so backward? What wonder that deficits should accumulate, when the Municipality is so remiss in collecting its dues? And who is responsible for this gross inefficiency? The public cannot but hold the Chairman, as the chief executive, responsible for it. Then, if rumours are to be believed, the Municipal Office is in a state of utter confusion and disorganization. The chairman has a method of business, which tends only to complicate matters, to multiply work, and to mystify where he seeks to throw light. His principles of book-keeping are not understood by the auditors, who protest against his innovations. Thus in every direction we see complications, confusion, and discord, and, to crown all, disregard of the law and the authority of the Commissioners, resulting in excessive and unsanctioned expenditure and growing deficits. These facts were laid bare at the last meeting of the Commissioners, and it was urged that they should be brought to the notice of the Government. In the meantime the poor Commissioners are abused, while the whole responsibility for the present state of things rests upon the Chairman.

THE RETURNS of mortality in the North Western Provinces for March and April give the following figures:

		1878.	1877.
Rohilkund	March	37,884	
	April	82,033	9,076
Agra	March	19,081	
	April	19,802	8,105
Lucknow	March	13,885	
	April	15,327	5,825
Roy Bareilly	March	11,371	
	April	14,472	5,028

The total mortality for the whole of the Provinces for April was as follows:

	April 1878.	April 1877.
N. W. Provinces ..	157,326	78,408

And yet we are asked to believe that the Government of the North Western Provinces has done all that it was necessary for it to do to save the distressed people from starvation!

OUR ASSAM CORRESPONDENT gives the following secret history of the movement in Assam to erect a memorial in honor of Col. Keatinge's administration of the Province:

"Mr. Campbell, the Deputy Commissioner of Goalpara *encouraged* the zemindars and others of his district (*through the instrumentality of Police*) to convene a meeting at Dhubri with a view of raising a sum of Rs. 10,000 for the construction of a Hall to be called "the Keatinge Hall" in memory of the retiring Chief Commissioner. The people would not have done this if they were not indirectly induced by the District Officer to do so. I do not know whom should Colonel Keatinge thank for this move to please him—the generous subscribers or the Deputy Commissioner!!! Colonel Keatinge is said to have left the notorious case of Assistant Engineer Shaik Nesor Ahmed of Dhubri for decision by Sir Stuart Bayley. If Col. Keatinge had decided the case before his leaving the province I doubt whether there would have been any demonstration at Dhubri in his honor.

A CATHOLIC MISSIONARY thus writes to the *Indo-European Correspondence* about the condition of the ryots in some estates in the Sunderbuns:

"The people are generally very poor; a great number pass their lives in continued distress, and half the year in something very akin to starvation. The property of the land is passing into the hands of the zemindars; and what was formerly cultivated as 'nal,' i.e, property of the cultivator under a reasonable rent of something like one rupee per beegah, has to be cultivated now as 'ticca,' under a rent which is simply ruinous. In fact, after my five years' experience of the country, living as I do in the midst of the people, acquainted with their every-day doings, I cannot well conceive what profit there may be in cultivating paddy-fields burdened with rent of from 3 to 4, sometimes 5 rupees per beegah, the average outturn of which is from 6 to 10 'kowris' of rice, which in ordinary times will not realise above so many rupees, and the cost of cultivation being at the very least two-half rupees, without taking into account the cost of harvesting and storing."

Referring to the above the *Statesman* remarks:

This process of permitting the land to pass from the cultivator into the hands of a non-cultivating class, ought to be stopped at all hazards and at any cost. Many years ago the whole subject was fully discussed in the columns of the *Indian Economist*. By permitting the transfer of ownership from the cultivator to the *mahajun*, or zemindar, we are simply paving the way to the total pauperization of the former and reduction of them to a cottier tenantry, living on the very verge of famine from one decade to another.

And yet the *Statesman* supports Sir Ashley Eden's proposal to make the occupancy right transferable. The immediate result of this measure will be the pauperization of the cultivating class. The mahajuns and other men of capital will buy out the indebted tenants in no time. And we will then have a body of peasantry without land and necessarily without means of subsistence. It is remarkable that this view has not struck any of the supporters of the proposal to declare the occupancy right transferable.

WE GIVE below a summary of the Resolution of the Government of India on the Kotah tragedy:

"It appears that a party of 15 armed dacoits had just committed a daring highway robbery upon a party escorting treasure, and that they were making off across the country with their booty, having killed one of some villagers who attempted to stop them. The alarm was given at a police post near their line of retreat, and the chief police officer earnestly required the aid of two *English Military* Officers who happened to be in camp at his station. The two officers, with the police, went in pursuit of the dacoits, and came up with ten of them at a place where they turned and stood to fight in order to cover their comrades' retreat with the plunder. The dacoits were repeatedly summoned to surrender, but they continued to resist until at last the English officers were prevailed upon by the Police to fire, when two dacoits fell. The Police rushed in and cut down seven more, in spite of the attempts of the officers to prevent unnecessary bloodshed.

The Governor General in Council observes that the two officers acted upon the belief that they were bound, when called upon to assist the Police of the State in taking these men, who were robbers and murderers and in using any means necessary to overcome their armed resistance. This belief appears justifiable by the law of British India, and is indeed a reasonable principle of action any where.

The Government of India has, therefore, decided, on a full review of the facts that the two officers could hardly have refused the assistance they gave to the Police, and that they deserve credit for their efforts to spare the lives of the dacoits. The opportunity has at the same time been taken to warn Government officers and other British subjects travelling in Native States, who may have little or no experience of the country or of its condition, that they must exercise great caution and discretion before they take part in any kind of fray or collision among the people involving the use of arms and the risk of life."

ANOTHER FULLER CASE. At the last criminal sessions of the District Court of Cuddapah, Mr. Alexander Weston, a famine relief officer, from Bengal, was arraigned on a charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The case of the prosecution was that Mr. Weston being on tour last April in a village called Mallur, ordered his horse-keeper, the deceased, to measure gram in front of his tent, in the presence of a number of persons, and finding it short gave the deceased two or three blows with his clenched fist on the head, and one or two on the left side. The last blow, or one of the last, ruptured the horse-keeper's spleen, and after being in great pain for about fifteen days, the man died of the blow. Mr. Weston pleaded not guilty. The first witness was the widow of the deceased, who stated that her husband went from his home at Royachoty to Mallur with the accused person and did not return with the accused person next day, so she went to look for him. She found him near the tope at Mallur, lying on his back unconscious, rubbed his body, and gave him food, and attended to him for two days, during the whole of which time he continued to pass large

quantities of blood every two hours or so. He complained of great pain in the body, writhed about, and was unable to walk or even sit up without help. In answer to her questions he told her his master had struck him on the head and side. She went to the village Reddi and got six pies from him, but did not complain to him, or to any person at Mallur. At last on the 3rd day she went home and engaged two pariahs, who came and carried her husband to Royachoty. There he lay sick for several days, and on two or three occasions, the witness helped him to crawl to the accused person's tent, and to salaam him, whilst she asked for his pay. He was unable to speak for himself. At last he died, after solemnly directing her almost with his last breath to complain to the Amaldar, who would order the Police to make a proper inquiry and do justice. The next witness was an apothecary whom the Judge utterly disbelieved. He says that "the apothecary has given evidence so greatly wanting in scientific precision, in directness, consistency, and persuasive force, that to my mind it is quite without value." Accordingly the Judge has come to the following conclusion:

I see no sufficient reason to believe that the deceased died from the effects of violence used fifteen days before, or even that he died in consequence of his spleen being ruptured. His widow says he passed blood in quantity for many days, and it is quite possible and probable that he died of exhaustion produced by acute dysentery, though the medical witness says he found no traces of that disease. After the 2nd witness had been examined at length, the Government prosecutor suggested that I should give my opinion as to the value of the medical evidence, and I did so. The five assessors then all declared that the cause of death had not been proved, and therefore the remaining witnesses were dispensed with, and the prosecution abandoned. Considering the suffering the unfortunate accused person has undergone, and the unnecessary severity and continuance to which he has been subjected, I think it right to state here, that in my opinion this is a wholly false case, that no blame is due to the accused person, and that he should leave the Court without a stain upon his character.

We cannot, however, understand why the minor charge was not entertained. The fact remains uncontradicted that the poor man did receive severe blows, which according to his widow's evidence hastened his death, but no enquiry was made whether the blows had been actually given or no!

PARICHARIKA is a Bengali Magazine written by Bengali ladies for Bengali ladies. We have the first two numbers of this periodical before us; the subjects are well chosen, the sentiments good, the style fair. There is an English paper on the "White Hills of Jubbulpore," sketchy and full of interest. We are told that it is written by a Bengali lady; need we say that it reflects great credit upon her. We wish every success to this literary project.

WE HAVE RECEIVED a copy of a lecture on "Liberal Education in India" delivered at the Bethune Society by Mr. Nagendranath Ghose, Barrister-at-law. The lecture has been well thought out and well written, though we do not subscribe to all that the writer says. "Liberal Education," says Mr. Nagendranath Ghose, "is a phrase of no settled meaning. It is sometimes restricted to mean a sound classical education. More frequently it is made to denote a high proficiency in any one subject, combined though it may be with an all but total ignorance of every other subject." His own idea is that "a man of Liberal Education must be a man of strictly scientific habits of thought. He must accept nothing upon trust. If he is to have any knowledge at all, it must be distinct and accurate knowledge founded upon unquestionable data. This is a fact which requires to be dwelt upon with some emphasis." The writer adds: "It is one of the characteristics of a good education to teach men humility. The educated man assumes no dogmatic, dictatorial tone in regard to matters beyond the domain of the exact sciences; he can feel no contempt for things which he but imperfectly understands; he realizes with a special vividness the littleness of the human intellect and the still more insignificant littleness of his own knowledge and ability; in a word, he is nothing if not humble." The spirit of the writer is excellent. We wish that he had given a practical character to the lecture by illustrating his views on the subjects of study prescribed by the Calcutta University.

ON WEDNESDAY last there was a License Tax Meeting held at the Town Hall of this city by native merchants and tradesmen, Babu Harrackchand Golechand, a rich Hindustani banker, occupied the chair. The following Resolutions were passed on the occasion:

That it is the deliberate opinion of this meeting that the realisation of an excessive amount of taxation from the people of this country will lead to a general famine all over the same, and that since in almost all parts of India famine, at present prevails to some extent or other, the diminution of taxes and not the imposition of a fresh tax will alleviate the distress of the people."

Moved by Baboo Modunmohun Bhatto,
Seconded by Keshubram Bhatto,—

"That it is further the opinion of this meeting that a poor country like India cannot bear the charges arising from inordinately high salaries granted to Government officers, and that retrenchments are possible in almost all departments of the state, the Home charges being susceptible of considerable reduction."

Moved by Baboo Gopi mohun Rai,
Seconded by Hajee Noor Mahomed Zakriel,—

"That this meeting believes that the incidence of the newly imposed Licence-tax does not fall fairly and equally upon all classes of the people. That bearing in view the circumstance that the prices of the necessaries of life are every day increasing, and considering that it is a long standing custom of the people of this country to live in joint families and the consequent dependence of many upon a few, the meeting further believes that it is scarcely possible even for persons earning incomes over Rs. 500 to live from hand to mouth. They, therefore, regret that while persons whose income barely exceed Rs. 100 have been rendered amenable to the License-tax, the comparatively affluent class, the high salaried officers of Government, have been exempted from taxation."

Moved by Baboo Bhoyrub Chunder Roy,
Seconded by Baboo Saroda Churn Mitter,—

"That a petition signed by the native merchants and traders of Calcutta and its vicinity, be submitted to Government."

Moved by Baboo Sita Nath Roy,
Seconded by Baboo Rokhal Doss Halder,—

"That with a view to further the objects of the above Resolutions, and that with a view to further the interests of the native merchants and traders generally, the following gentlemen form into a permanent body, and that the same be denominated the Native Merchants and Traders Association." [We have not been favored with the names.]

Moved by Baboo Jagat Chunder Roy,
Seconded by Baboo Lukenath Mitra,—

"That, as heretofore, the papers and accounts of the Association continue to lie with Baboo Jasoda Nundon Sircar, and that the following gentlemen, with the above-named Baboo form the Executive Committee to conduct all business—Roy Dhunput Sing Bahadoor, Roy Budre Doss Bahadoor, Baboos Hurruckchand Dhurmchand, Kali Churn Bannerjya, Joggunnath Chunder Saha Kamine Kumar Rai, Muddon Bhutto, Brojender Kumar Rai, Sitanath Rai, Gopal Chunder Mookerjya, Saroda Chunder Miter, and Nobogopal Miter.

Moved by Dhorum Chand Poran Chand, seconded by Ackia Ram Gyan Chand Baboo.

Whatever may be the issue of this meeting, the union of native merchants and tradesmen of all classes for a common cause is certainly a matter of congratulation. We hope this union will continue.

OUR OLD FRIEND, *Mookerjee's Magazine*, has again made appearance after an interval of nearly two years. Five numbers have been published in one volume, embracing August to December 1876. The subjects in the volume before us are important and ably handled. We heartily welcome the Maga, and hope that it will lead a less fitful life than it has hitherto done.

WE HAVE RECEIVED a copy of the last annual report on the administration of the Police of Calcutta and its Suburbs, which we propose to notice at leisure. The Resolution of the Lieutenant Governor on the report thus concludes:

On the whole, the Lieutenant-Governor believes that the working of the force under the Commissioner of Police has been satisfactory. They have no doubt unusual difficulties to contend with in such a city as Calcutta. All the Superintendents and many Inspectors are reported to have worked well, and the Lieutenant-Governor believes that the public generally are satisfied with conduct of the force. The Commissioner, bears testimony to the great efficiency and application with which the Acting Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Charles, superintended the administration of the police during the year.

It is noteworthy that the Resolution does not contain one word in praise of Mr. Metcalfe, though he was Commissioner of Police for the whole of 1877. This silence is significant.

WE GLEAN from the morning papers the following Parliamentary intelligence:

"In the House of Commons on Friday, May 24th Mr. Fawcett gave notice that on going into Committee of Supply on the supplementary estimate he would move; "That this House, in view of the recent movement of Indian troops to Europe, is of opinion that a larger army is maintained in India than is required for her defence and security, and that consequently the military expenditure of India ought, in justice to the tax-payers of that country, to be reduced." Mr. E. Jenkins gave notice of the withdrawal of his motion in respect to the employment of the Indian troops, in order to make way for that of the hon. member for Hackney. Mr. Waddy asked the Under-Secretary of State for India whether the powers conferred upon Her Majesty by the 57th section of the 21st and 22nd Vict., chap. 106, have ever been exercised; and, if so, whether he will give the date of any Order in Council made in pursuance thereof, and cause the same to be printed for the information of the House. Mr. E. Stanhope said no Order in Council had been issued under this section, because none had been required; and the terms and condition of the Indian service remained the same as they were when the Act was passed. Mr. Fawcett inquired whether, before any portion of the revenues of India was devoted to defray the expenses of the transport of Indian troops to Malta, the expenditure was sanctioned by the Council of the Secretary of State for India; and, if so, what day this sanction was given. The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied that no portion of the Indian revenues had been appropriated to this purpose. Mr. Fawcett would ask on Monday whether, under the Indian Act, no grant appropriation could be made without the consent of the Council of the Secretary of State for India."

REMOVAL OF INDIAN TROOPS.

MAY 27.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in answer to Mr. Fawcett, who asked whether the assent of the Council of the Secretary for India had been obtained before the expenses of moving Indian troops to Malta were defrayed out of the Indian revenues, said: There has been no appropriation of the revenues of India for this purpose. There has been simply an advance on account and consequently no case has arisen under the 41st section of the Government of India Act, 1858, which provides that the expenditure of the revenues of India shall be subject to the control of the Secretary of State in council.

INDO-EUROPEAN TROOPS IN MALTA.

Major Nolan asked the Under-Secretary of State for India what allowances in quarters, rations, money, or otherwise the wives and children of the European soldiers ordered from India to Malta are receiving at present.

Mr. Stanhope: While they remain in India they receive free quarters and subsistence allowance; if of European, or in some cases of mixed descent, at eight rupees a month; if otherwise, at six and a half rupees a month; their children under sixteen, at two and a half rupees a month. The wives and children receive, in addition, half and quarter rations respectively free

THE RECENT FAMINE IN INDIA.

Mr. B. Potter asked the Under-Seretary of State for India whether his attention had been drawn to a statement in the *Times* of May 15, said to be based mainly on official *data*, to the effect that the mortality caused by the recent famine in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies and Mysore was not far short of six millions; and whether the Government were in possession of any information tending to confirm or disprove the said statement.

Mr. E. Stanhope: Yes, sir, my attention has been called to the statement alluded to. The returns which we have at present received from India are very imperfect, and by quoting them I might run the risk of misleading the House; but as soon as we are in possession of fuller information it shall be laid on the table of the House. The returns disclose, I regret to say, a very lamentable loss of life, but so far as they go, they do not lead us to suppose that the mortality at all approached to that stated by the correspondent of the *Times*. I would point out that the diminution of population, whatever it may be, is due not only to mortality, but to a very large emigration of people who have left the distressed districts in search of work or sustenance.

THE THIRTY-FIRST INDIAN NATIVE INFANTRY.

Mr. E. Stanhope, in reply to Mr. O'Donnell, who asked whether it was true, as stated in the *Calcutta Englishman* of the 25th ultimo, that a number of soldiers of the 31st Native Infantry stationed at Cawnpore, under orders for Malta flung aside their accoutrements and demanded to be allowed to share the imprisonment of their comrades already under arrest, said: We have received no official information on the subject, but there appears to be no reason for attaching any importance whatever to the proceedings.

THE INDIAN ARMY.

Mr. Fawcett, in reply to Mr. Dillwyn, said he should not bring forward his motion on the Indian Army that evening; and he gave notice to postpone the motion until an early day, or until the Indian Budget.

Observations were subsequently made by Sir E. Colebrooke Sir H. Havelock, Mr. Mills, and Mr. Childers, and in the end Sir G. Campbell asked leave to withdraw his motion, but this the House refused, and it was negatived without a division.

Mr. E Stanhope stated that no charge would be laid upon the revenues of India for the expedition. The right hon. gentleman had contended that an order in Council was necessary, and that that order should be laid before Parliament. He (Mr. Stanhope) argued that the object of the section of the Act which had been referred to was this, that when it was desirable to alter the terms and conditions of service upon which native troops had enlisted, Her Majesty could only do so by an order in Council, which should subsequently be laid before Parliament, and he contended that no alteration had been made in those terms and conditions.

Sir G. Campbell moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the cost, direct and indirect, of Her Majesty's Indian troops serving beyond the old Indian limits east of the Cape of Good Hope.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer:

We propose to ask Parliament to give this vote in order to avoid that which we are erroneously charged with wishing to do—viz., to throw the expense upon the Indian revenues We say that upon that depends the legality of what we are doing. We believe that it would be illegal without the consent of Parliament to lay any portion of the expense upon India, but we say that we neither have done it nor do we intend to do it, and we ask Parliament to give us this sum in order to supply us with the means of making it perfectly clear to all the world that we intend to defray the expense. But I apprehend that the House knows perfectly well how we stand in that respect. We have incurred this expense upon our own responsibility, because we believed that it was a right step to take and that it was one which the House and the country upon consideration would hold was right and wise. But if, at any future time, it should be the opinion of Parliament that we have acted wrongly in this matter, we shall be liable to the censure of Parliament. With regard to the question now before us. I hold that it is not a moment at which it

is particularly convenient that we should be called upon for a division because I really do not see what the particular issue is upon which we are going to divide. If the hon. member for Hackney had brought forward his motion, there is no doubt it would have been competent for the House to have considered that amendment, but I do not see what the meaning of a division would be upon the question that you, sir, do leave the chair,

The House divided, the announcement that Mr. Rylands and Mr. Jenkins would tell for the "Noes" being received with loud sarcastic cheers from the Conservative benches.

Ayes	...	..	...	214
Noes	...	...	...	40—174

The House then went into committee of supply.

On the first vote of £350,000 for the pay and expenses of a number not exceeding 7,000 men of the Indian army serving out of India.

The question was then put, and a division was challenged; but after the House had been cleared for a division the vote was agreed to.

On the vote of £398,000 for the transport service of the expedition, Mr. Parnell asked for information of the terms made with the owners of the transports.

Mr. W. H. Smith said that had it been given out that the Government were about to take up 46,300 tons of shipping the cost would, he believed, have been reater than it was. The Indian Government had acted to the best of their judgment for the Imperial Government. The vote was based on informaton received by the best of the Government's information, the liabilities that had been incurred. It included port and canal dues, the necessary fitting for the ships and other charges.

Motion carried.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the following budget of news from Mysore:

SIR.—We have been favored with a timely and heavy shower of rain, and both the tanks called Dadakere and Karangekere are quite full.

Our young Maharaja's marriage has come well nigh to a close. Both the commencement and close of the marriage were attended with conflagrations. The fire of the car erected for idol Lukshmenarana in whose temple the late Maharaja's coronation took place is already known. On the evening of Tuesday last a little before the royal procession started the brilliantly illiuminated archgate forming the northern entrance to the Palace caught fire, in extinguishing which a man lost his life,

Bhoori (distribution of alms) was given to poor Brahmins who had travelled to Mysore from remote parts of this province of Madras in Varahaswamy's temple. Several Bramins were not admitted into the Temple, and the small doles of money to which the word Bhoori is inapplicable and which the few who were admitted and obtained were hardly sufficient to cover even one-fourth of their travelling expenses.

Presents consisting of khelluts, shawls, cloths &c., were given to several invited gentlemen. The principle upon which presents were distributed is not clear and serves to be synonymous with the pleasure of the Controller and his colleagues. All Assistant Commissioners and invited public servants and several merchants were favored with presents. There was a prohibition against pleaders, but relaxation was made in the cases of Messrs. Narrainsastry, as public prosecutor, and Ramswamey Iyenger as a shareholder in the Town Bank, Mysore. Pleaders are by their education and conduct superior to, and more respectable than, the so-called petty traders and shareholders in Banks and their status has been recognized by the highest judicial functionary in the Province as legal officers. They were all invited, and it is a gross insult that they as such should not be considered as entitled to participation in the Royal honor. As stated above it is difficult to detect the principle governing the selection of persons for this distinction, and the cases which have come under observation leads one to the irresistible conclusion that it has been all a mere matter of the will and pleasure of the Controller and his associates. So much for Palace matters.

The cases of two individuals attached to the public service Mysore Commission deserve special mention. The first is that of Syed Baker, a subadar in the Mysore Military Bar who has been cashiered for alleged indifferent conduct and insubordination. The facts of the case so far as they can be gathered are, that Syed Baker having come by some correspondence purporting to have been written by the late Bar Bakshee and containing insinuations against the said Syed Baker with the object of procuring his dismissal and bringing him to grief, submitted a letter forming part of the correspondence accompanied by a petition addressed to the Military Assistant, soliciting promotion, and urging his conjecture that the Military Assistant might have listened to the false accusation of the Bar Bakshee who was hostile to him, of his claims for promotion having been overlooked. Upon this a fiat went forth for the arrest of the subadar, who on being brought to Bangalore, was ordered to deliver up all the letters in his possession, and though he was assured that something like a Court Martial would be held for the trial of the Bakshee, he was dismissed the service. As for this Bukshee, he was allowed to retire on full pension which was considered in his case a sufficiently severe punishment.

The 2nd case is that of Lakshmana Row Judicial Sheristdar Mysore District who was degraded to the post of translator from Rs. 100 to Rs. 70. This gentleman is one of those few independent persons who serve the Government not so much for the pelf they can scrape by obsequious cringing and bowing as for the honor and good fame which they hope to earn by upright conduct and honest discharge of their duties. It has long been known that Lakshamana Row by his bold open talk failed to ingratiate himself with Major Pearse. Lakshmana Row seeing that it was not compatible with his safety to serve any longer under Major Pearse, brought to the notice of Colonel Hay the Commissioner of the Division the unpleasant relations which subsisted between himself and Major Pearse and applied for his transfer to Hassen. Accordingly Colonel Hay granted his request and Lakshamana Row marched off to Hassen. And on the 1st January 1878 no sooner did he reach his destination and report himself to the Deputy Commissioner of that District than he was told to go back to Mysore, where he arrived on the 15th January 1878. He found that his Moonshee had done nothing towards the preparation and submission of annual accounts and Returns. He brought this to Major Pearse's notice, but to no effect. Major Pearse took away the Head Munshi with him to the Jamabunde Camp. He gave the Depy. Munshi to Major Logan for famine work. He ordered the 3rd to proceed at once and join his new post. There were left only 3 hands in the Department, two of whom were Mussulmans hardly fit for account work and the other was engaged in doing the current work To these difficulties arising from the paucity and inexperience of officials were added those of admitted delay and mistakes having been caused by the Officials of a Sub-Division Court having been laid up by sickness. With these difficulties staring him in the face L. Row strained every nerve to expedite the submission of returns In the meantime Major Pearse having received a reminder from Colonel Hay for returns, wrote in reply that L. Row was the cause of delay admitting at the same time that the Officials of the Mandya Sub-Division had to blame to a considerable extent. Upon this L. Row submitted his explanation to Major Pearse. He also petitioned Colonel Hay requesting him not to pass final orders upon Major P.'s report till he (Colonel Hay) received his (L. Row's explanation. Major Pearse apparently satisfied with his explanation forwarded it to Collonell Hay who after perusal returned the same to Major Pearse observing that other officials were to blame, and calling for a report on the points therein urged. But before the receipt of a reply to the above Colonel Hay degraded L. Row to a translator's post, saying that the degradation was only temporary and requesting his successor to provide L. Row with an appointment of Rs. 100. On appeal the Judicial Commissioner ordered that L. Row should be transferred to another District or given a post of 100 Rs. Already 3 months have elapsed since the Judicial Commissioner passed his order, and nothing has been done yet for L. Row!

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS	Rs.	As.	P.
Baboo Bhola Nath Das, Dhubri	13	4	0
,, Ramma Nath Bannerjee, Darbhunga	3	4	0
,, Kylas Chunder Pal, Bramonbaria	10	0	0
,, Bheobone Mohun Roy, Safa	6	0	0
,, Nepal Chunder Bose, Patna	10	0	0
,, Sant Persad, Gya	13	4	0
,, Ghummundee Lal, Fyzabad	10	0	0
,, Aughore Nath Mookerjee, Hooghly	6	10	0
,, Manickchunder, Borooah Gowhatty	13	4	0
,, Lal Bahadoor Singh, Ajaigurh	6	10	0
,, Nityanund Das, Khorda	20	0	0
,, Jodoonath Chatterjee, Krishnagar	13	4	0
,, Ram Chunder Bose, Boda	13	4	0
,, Soseevosun Bose, Jessore	5	0	0
H. H. Maharaja of Travancore	13	4	0
Secretary Jhansi Reading Club	13	4	0
Davideen Doorga Prosad, Harsood	6	10	0
Maharaj Kumar of Dinagepore	13	4	0
Inspector of Schools. Rajpootna	13	4	0
Secy. Khamargatchee Des Hitaishini Sava	4	4	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*June* 19, 1878.

GENERAL.—Baboo Bhoobun Mohun Raha, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Brahmunbariah, Tipperah, is appointed to have charge of the Chandpore division of that district.

Baboo Kali Nath De, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Colletor, Tipperah, is appointed to have charge of the Brahmunbariah division of that district.

Baboo Gouri Sunker Biswas, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Julpigoree, is promoted temporarily to the Sixth Grade of the Subordinate Executive Service, *vice* Baboo Sree Nath Bhudder.

Mr. G. J. S. Hodgkinson is promoted to the First Grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Mr. F. W. J. Rees.

Mr. Hodgkinson will continue to act, until further orders, in the Second Grade of Magistrates and Collectors.

Mr. E. H. Ruddock is appointed to be a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, *vice* Mr. G. J. S. Hodgkinson.

Mr. Ruddock will continue to act, until further orders, in the First Grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors.

Baboo Hara Kissen Das is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, and is posted to Bhudruck, in Balasore.

Mr. G. S. Park, C.S., reported his departure from India on furlough in the afternoon of the 19 April 1878, per steam ship *Cathay*.

Mr. D. B. Allen, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Dacca, is allowed leave for forty-two days under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Mr. F. E. Pargiter, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chittagong, is transferred to the Sudder of station the Dacca district.

Mr. J. C. Price is appointed to act, until further orders in the First Grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 1st April last. Mr. Price will continue to act as Settlement Officer of Midnapore until further orders.

The orders of the 5th instant, appointing Baboo Luchmi Narain to be a temporary Sub-Deputy Collector of the First Grade in Shahabad, *vice* Moonshee Nassirooddeen, are cancelled.

Moonshee Anwar Ahmed is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the First Grade, *vice* Moonshee Nassirooddeen, appointed a Circle Officer under the Bengal License Act. Moonshee Ahmed is posted to Shahabad.

Mr. A. P. MacDonnell, C.S., reported his departure from India, on furlough, per S. S. *Malwa* on the 15th May 1878.

Mr. F. H. Harding Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Serampore division of the Hooghly district, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act VII (B.C.) of 1868.

POLICE.—Mr. B. Rattray, District Superintendent of Police Maldah, is transferred to Beerbhoom.

Baboo Mohendro Nath Hazara, Assistant Superintendent in charge of the District Police Beerbhoom, is transferred to Maldah, and is appointed to have charge of the District Police of that district.

Mr. H. Munro, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Shahabad, is appointed to act as District Superintenpent of District Superintendent of Police, Shahabad, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. R. H. G. Irvine, or until further orders.

Major R. M. Skinner, District Superintendent of Police, Mozufferpore, is transferred to Shahabad.

Mr. H. Munro, Officiating District Superintendent of Police, Shahabad, is appointed to be Assistant Superintendent of Police of that district, and is posted to Sasseram, with effect from the date on which he is relieved of his present acting appointment by Major R. M. Skinner.

Mr F. A. Dawson, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Mozufferpore, is appointment to act temporarily as District Superintendent of Police of that district, with effect from the date on which he received charge of the Office from Major R. M. Skinner.

Mr. H. A. Coombs, District Superintendent of Police Pooree is appointed to the charge of the Police Gurjat Mehals Cuttack.

Mr. F. Graves, Officiating District Superintendent of Police, Cuttack, is appointed to have temporary charge of the Police in the Gurjat Mehals, in addition to his own duties, till relieved by Mr. H. A. Coombs.

Mr. F. A. Dawson is transferred to Police as an Assistant Superintendent of Police on being relieved of his present emporary appointment as Officiating District Superintenden of Police, Mozufferpore.

Mr. Dawson is appointed to have charge of the District Police of Pooree.

Mr. G. W. S. Cox, Officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police, Cuttack, is vested temporarily with the powers of an Assistant Superintendent of Police in the Gurjat Mehals, Cuttack.

Major R. P. Davis, Officiating District Superintendent of Police, Bhagulpore, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the Second Grade of District Superintendents of Police, with effect from the 14 April 1878, *vice* Major W. W. Hume, on leave.

Mr. H. W. J. Bamber, District Superintendent of Police, Rajshahye, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the Second Grade of District Superintendent of Police, with effect from the 22nd April 1878.

Mr. J. Patch, District Superintendent of Police, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the Third Grade of District Superintendents of Police, with effect from the 25th April last, *vice* Mr. W. W. Daly, on furlough.

Mr. W. H. Cornish, District Superintendent of Police, Manbhoom, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the Third Grade of District Superintendents of Police, *vice* Major R. P. Davis.

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